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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

FOR THE YEAR 1848.

NEW YORK:

PRESS OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

1848.

NEW YORK:
WILLIAM VAN NORDEN, PRINTER,
NO. 39 WILLIAM STREET.

NOTE.

Prior to 1847, the Proceedings of the Society were published in the form of an annual bulletin. In 1847, by order of the Society, the publication was changed to the present form of a monthly bulletin of Proceedings, containing a careful report of all the transactions of the Society, a full record of all donations and additions made to the Library and Cabinet, the annual and monthly reports of its several officers, and abstracts of the papers read at the several meetings.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

Elected 1848.

PRESIDENT,

ALBERT GALLATIN, LL. D.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT,

LUTHER BRADISH.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT,

THOMAS DE WITT, D. D.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDING SECRETARY,

JOHN R. BARTLETT.

DOMESTIC CORRESPONDING SECRETARY,

JAMES W. BEEKMAN.

RECORDING SECRETARY,

ANDREW WARNER.

TREASURER,

WILLIAM CHAUNCEY.

LIBRARIAN,

JACOB B. MOORE.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

1848.

GEORGE GIBBS, Chairman,
ERASTUS C. BENEDICT,
EDWARD ROBINSON, D. D.
FREDERIC DE PEYSTER,
AUGUSTUS SCHELL,
MARSHALL S. BIDWELL,
GEORGE H. MOORE, Secretary.

THE OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY, EX. OFF.

SYNOPSIS.

1848.

Jan. 4. Annual Election.—Reports of the several officers.—Proceedings on the Death of Chancellor Kent.

Feb. 1. Prof. O. W. Morris's Paper: On Indian Names.—Huguenot MSS.—Mr. Russell on the Census for 1850.

March 7. Mr. Copway's Paper: On the Wars in Canada West, between the Ojibways and Iroquois.—Proceedings on the Death of John Quincy Adams.

April 4. Rev. Dr. De Witt's Paper: On the Sources of some of the early settlements in New York.

May 2. Mr. Raymond's Paper: On proposed amendments to the Constitution of the United States, with original unpublished Letters from distinguished Statesmen.

June 6. Mr. Squier's Paper: On the Historical and Mythological Traditions of the Algonquin Tribes of Indians, with a translation of the "Walum Olum," or Bark Record, of the Linni-Lenape.

SUMMER RECESS.

Oct. 13. Mr. Brodhead's Communication: With translation of a Letter from Isaack de Rasiere to Mr. Blommaert, written in 1627.

Nov. 7. Mr. Brodhead's Paper: A Memoir of the Early Colonization of New Netherland.—Reception of the French Minister, M. Poussin; his Address.

Nov. 21. Anniversary Meeting.—Address of Mr. King: On the History of the New York Chamber of Commerce, with notices of some of its most distinguished members.

Dec. 5. Mr. De Peyster's Paper: On the Ruins of Tustepeque, in Mexico. Also, Remarks on the changes in the Buttermilk Channel, New York Harbor.

Mr. Greenhow's Paper: On the probability that Archbishop Fenelon was for some years a missionary in Western New York and Canada.

Mr. Bloodgood's Paper: On the Literary Men of the American Colonies.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

ANNUAL MEETING, JANUARY 4, 1848.

The Hon. Luther Bradish, First Vice President, in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting of the society were read and approved.

The Foreign Corresponding Secretary read a letter from Mr. J. G. Schwarz, dated Vienna, 26 May, 1847, accompanying a valuable donation of books. Mr. Schwarz observes that notwithstanding the distance which separates America from Austria, yet at the time of the discovery of America, it was brought into close contact with the Spanish Crown. He believes that in consequence of this close connection, there exist, and may yet be found in the archives of Austria, valuable documents relating to the early history of America.

The Domestic Corresponding Secretary read sundry letters received by him since the last stated meeting.

The Librarian announced the additions to the Library since the last meeting, as follows:—

BY DONATION.

The Book of the Chronicles and History, with figures and portraits, from the Beginning of the World to the present day. Folio, 1494 [Printed in Dutch, black letter.]

Wien's Kaiserliches Zeughaus zum ersten male aus Historisch Kritischem Gesichtspunkte Betrachtet, für alterthumsfreunde und waffenkenner beschrieben, und herausgegeben von Fr. Von Leber. Erster Theil, mit einem titelbilde, 8vo. Leipzig, 1846.

Osterreich's Ehrenspiegel. Herausgegeben von Blasius Höfel, Peter Ritter von Bohr und Alois Reitze. Erster Band. 4to. Wien, 1836.

Die Ritterburgen Rauheneck, Scharfeneck und Rauhenstein. Mit geschichtlichen andeutungen über die Vemgerichte und Turniere herausgegeben von Fr. Von Leber. Mit zehn Steintafeln. Der volle Reinertrag ist Badens Kinderbewahr-anstalt Bestimmt. 8vo. Wien, 1841.

Wien seine Geschichte und seine Denkwurdigkeiten. 9 vols. 8vo. Wien, 1823—1825.—*Gift of John G. Schwarz, of Vienna, Austria.*

The Greek Testament, with English Notes, Critical, Philological, and Exegetical, Maps, Indexes, &c. By Rev. J. A. Spencer, A. M. 12mo. Harper & Brothers, New York, 1847.—*Gift of the Author.*

History of the Reformation in England. By Rev. J. A. Spencer, A. M. 18mo. Stanford & Swords, New York, 1846.—*Gift of the Author.*

An Historical Sketch of Trinity Church, New York. By the Rev. William Berrian, D. D., the Rector of the same. 8vo. Stanford & Swords, New York, 1847.—*Gift of Trinity Church.*

The Psalms of David, with the Ten Commandments, Creed, Lord's Prayer, &c., in Metre. Also, the Catechism, Confession of Faith, Liturgy, &c. Translated from the Dutch, for the use of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of the City of New York. 12mo. James Parker, New York, 1767.—*Gift of Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield.*

Guenon's Treatise on Milch Cows, with Remarks and Observations on the Cow and the Dairy. By John S. Skinner. 8vo. New York, 1846.—*Gift of Greeley & McElrath.*

Outlines of General History, in the form of Question and Answer: designed as the foundation and the review of a course of Historical Reading. By Richard Green Parker, A. M 12mo. Harper & Brothers, New York, 1848.—*Gift of the Author.*

The Laws, Reports, and Legislative Documents of the State of Michigan, in thirty-seven volumes, to wit:—

The Revised Statutes of 1838, 8vo.

Revised Statutes of 1846, 8vo.

Session Laws of the State, for the years 1831, 1832, 1833, 1834, 1835, 1836, 1841, 1842, 1844, 1845, 1846, & 1847.

Douglass' Michigan Reports, Vol. I.

Walker's Chancery Reports.

Harrington's Chancery Reports.

Journals of the Legislative Council for 1827, 1831, 1832, 1833, 1834.

Executive Journals for 1835, 1836, 1837, & 1844.

Journals of the Senate and House, and Legislative Documents for 1837, 1839, 1840, 1841, 1842, 1843, 1844, 1845, 1846, and 1847.

Sheet Maps of the Counties of Lenawee, Jackson, Calhoun, and Washtenaw, in the State of Michigan.—*Gift of the State of Michigan.*

Topographical Map of Massachusetts, compiled from Astronomical, Trigonometrical, and various local surveys, made by order of the Legislature. Simeon Borden, Superintendent. Boston, 1844. With the Geological Map of the State, made by order of the Legislature. By Edward Hitchcock, 1844.—*Gift of the State of Massachusetts.*

A package of Manuscripts, of a miscellaneous character, bearing dates from 1709 to 1737, being a part of the papers of Major Epenetus Platt, of Huntington, L. I., who was somewhat distinguished as a member of the Provincial Assembly.—*Gift of Mrs. Eliza P. Platt Rogers, widow of James Rogers.*

The Chairman of the Executive Committee made a report on the nominations referred to that Committee, recommending the following candidates, who were thereupon elected:

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

Isaac Q. Leake,	Reading, Steuben Co., N. Y.
John R. Thompson,	Richmond, Va.,
Horace Binney, Jun.,	Philadelphia, Pa.,
Rev. A. Cleveland Cox,	Hartford, Conn.

A. B. Morell,	Mobile, Ala.
E. F. Campbell,	Savannah, Geo.
Dr. Charles Drake,	Newburgh, Orange Co., N. Y.

RESIDENT MEMBERS.

Stephen P. Nash,	Edwin Harwood,
Daniel Morton,	Theodore Bailey Myers,
Alfred G. Jones,	Herman C. Adams,
Samuel H. Dixon,	Leonard W. Goddard,
Francis H. Saltus,	Samuel B. Jones,
James Suydam,	J. Prescott Hall,
Samuel H. Cox, D. D.,	Robert S. Luqueer,
James B. Wilson,	John G. Day,
William K. Strong,	J. Salisbury Breese.

The Foreign Corresponding Secretary then presented and read his annual report, as follows:—

The Foreign Corresponding Secretary of the New York Historical Society, begs leave to submit the following report.

As the duties of this office are confined to a correspondence with foreign countries, the labors of the Secretary are necessarily limited. As usual, copies of the Bulletin of the Society have been transmitted to the societies in France and England, with which we have had communication heretofore, as well as to men of learning whose names are enrolled in the society's list of members. These publications tend to make the society known in foreign countries, and, in a few instances have resulted to its advantage by returns of valuable books. These books have been presented from time to time by the Librarian, and acknowledgments of the same made by the Secretary.

The Domestic Corresponding Secretary presented and read his annual report, which follows:—

The Domestic Corresponding Secretary respectfully reports—

That a particular abstract of the Home Correspondence of the society since the date of his last report, including at length all letters of importance, has been regularly published in the monthly Bulletin of the society. He therefore omits his usual custom of appending the same to his report.

During the last year sixty-three gentlemen have been elected corresponding members of the society, resident in the various states of the Union—from nearly all of whom have been received letters of acknowledgment, and from some of them, valuable contributions to the library and cabinet of the society. An acknowledgment of their gifts will appear in the report of the Librarian.

To the Domestic Corresponding Secretary was some time since referred the subject of a grant from the several states of the Union, of their executive and legislative documents. In the endeavor to accomplish an end so desirable as the collection in our hall, of a uniform and complete series of the governmental documents of all the states composing our confederacy, valuable aid has occasionally been derived from some of the historical societies with which we are in correspondence, and which, when applied to, have cheerfully lent their influence in this behalf. The difficulties of procuring, on the part of so many distinct legislatures, already burthened with business of their own, and distracted with questions of personal interest and political importance, the passage of a special act conferring upon an historical association at a distance, favors and rights possessed by few within their own borders, were so great as to have induced many to regard the scheme of the society as hopeless—but each year adds to the number of the States which have already granted the prayer of our memorial, and secured to us by act of the legislature, a series as complete as possible, of their past legislation, and all their future publications, executive, legislative and judicial.

In his past annual report, the Secretary announced that

his Excellency Governor Felch, of Michigan, now a member of the Senate of the United States, on his induction into the executive office, found among the papers on file the memorial of our society, and immediately laid it before the legislature and recommended the passage of an act in accordance with its prayer, which was promptly acceded to.

The volumes thus granted, thirty-seven in number, have within the last month been received and form a valuable addition to the series already on our shelves.

The Legislature of Kentucky, during the last year, at the instance of the historical society of that state, have passed an act directing the Secretary of State to forward to each state historical society, that shall desire the same, a copy of the acts, journals, and public documents published by the authority of the General Assembly, and the books intended for this society are presently expected.

The states that have thus far complied with our request, and whose documents we are entitled regularly to receive, are, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, New Jersey, North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, Michigan and Indiana. The documents from the last state are believed to be now on their way.

The Historical Societies with which we are in correspondence have continued during the last year, as will appear from the report of the Librarian, the usual interchange of publications.

The Massachusetts Historical Society, the earliest and most steadily efficient in the United States, are about publishing their 30th volume of collections.

It is understood to be printed, and only waits for the index that accompanies every series.

The Vermont Historical and Antiquarian Society, it is understood, has a volume of revolutionary and other papers of historical interest, ready for the press, under the supervision of Henry Stevens, Esquire, their President, to whose exertions the society owes its existence, and

who, with praiseworthy industry has devoted several years to the investigation of the history of Vermont, and the recovery of its scattered memorials.

The Historical Society of New Hampshire has published no volume since 1837; but the five volumes issued by that society, are of a value which induces the hope that further contributions will soon be made by them to the historical literature of the country.

The Maine Historical Society, founded in 1822, has, during the last year published their second volume of collections, embracing a discourse delivered before them, by the Hon. George Folsom, the former Corresponding Secretary of this society, and several ancient and very rare pamphlets relating to the history of that state.

The Historical Society of New Jersey have furnished their second volume of collections, containing an original Memoir of William Alexander, Earl of Stirling, with selections from his correspondence, by his grandson, William A. Duer,—a work which was brought to the attention of the society when first received, and of which the chief materials were gathered from our archives.

The Pennsylvania Historical Society have continued during the last year their occasional Bulletins, with sketches of their proceedings, and occasional revolutionary documents of much value. Large additions have been recently made to their collections of MSS. and they have appropriated some moneys to obtain copies of state papers now in England, and propose memorializing the legislature in respect to the publication of documents in the state archives.

The Historical Society of Maryland have not only rivalled their sister associations in the energy and activity they have exhibited in gathering together the materials for the history of their state, but also, in their care to preserve these materials when gathered, from all hazard of destruction. From a recent report of their proceedings, it appears that their library embraces one thousand and

two hundred volumes, with many valuable pamphlets, maps, and portraits, and during the last year, a sufficient sum was contributed for the erection of a building for the joint occupation of the society and the Baltimore Library Company; and the President, with reason, congratulated the members upon being under their own roof, with ample security for even the most precious MSS., books, portraits, or productions of the fine arts.

The Kentucky Historical Society, is also in a prosperour condition; holding its regular meetings in the city of Louisville, with about forty active members, and one hundred honorary members.

The Historical Society of Virginia, the revival of which was mentioned in the last annual report, has been efficiently organized under the presidency of the Hon. W. C. Rives, and promises to be a most useful co-adjutor in illustrating the history of our country.

During the last month, the Secretary has been advised of the organization of an Historical Society in Louisiana, by the Corresponding Secretary of that institution, and an interchange of documents requested.

Among the new serial publications of an historical character, is the New England Historical and Genealogical Register, published quarterly, under the direction of the New England Historic-Genealogical Society, which promises to collect and preserve numerous materials, invaluable to our historiographers, and tending to awaken among classes not hitherto reached by historical societies, the spirit of antiquarian research.

The Librarian then presented his annual report, as follows:

The previous reports made to the Society have detailed, so much at length, the condition of the several departments of the library and collections, and their wants, that it will be sufficient, in this place, briefly to review the transactions of the last year.

During that period the additions have been gratifying both in number and value, and much has been done towards rendering available what we already possessed. A catalogue of the additions has been already published in the Bulletin.

In April last, a subscription of one thousand dollars was authorized for the benefit of the library, which has been collected and applied partly to the expenses of cataloguing and indexing the manuscripts, and partly to the binding of a large quantity of newspapers in possession of the society.

Of these last, there have been bound about four hundred volumes, which are now open to use and arranged in a room specially devoted to that purpose. Many of these constitute of themselves important files, while others served more or less to complete those already upon our shelves.

The whole collection now extends to over one thousand volumes, excluding duplicates, of which there are also a large number. Its extent and importance cannot fail to have been noticed by the members. In its present form, it is indeed one of the most valuable collections in the country.

Upon the regular extension of this department of the library, as a source of history, too great attention cannot be bestowed. The Society should possess complete sets of the leading newspapers throughout the country, particularly of the official papers both of the general and state governments.

The Librarian would suggest in this connection, to members, the service that they would render by preserving certain of their files, and even such odd volumes as may fall into their hands. The value of papers apparently unimportant in themselves, is often considerable, in the completion of sets. There is one class in particular of great value, of which little is generally thought beyond the day; it is the Prices Current. The statisti

cal information of trade and commerce contained in these publications, well deserves preservation in a city of merchants.

The catalogue has during this year been extended to the manuscripts and maps, and will, as soon as time allows, be completed in reference to all other objects. The total number of maps of all kinds in possession of the society, amounts, it may be mentioned, to one thousand and five hundred. This class of objects likewise deserves continued attention. Every map relating to any section of the country, however defective it may be, is of value in tracing the history of geographical knowledge, or of the variation in civil divisions.

The catalogue of manuscripts shows a total number of fourteen thousand distinct letters or other documents, besides about one hundred manuscript books or volumes. Of the former class the MSS. of General Gates are the most numerous. They contain about six thousand papers, and, as relates to the history of the American Revolution, are of immense value. The next largest collection is the Steuben, numbering some three thousand, and in the Stirling papers, there are about two thousand.

During the examination of the MSS. it was found that in the original arrangement, many of the first importance had been left out or neglected, and many instances were found of papers misplaced. A new arrangement of these therefore became indispensable to their easy use, as well as safety, and a separate subscription was authorized for that purpose.

Under this appropriation a commencement has already been made by re-arranging and binding the papers of Lord Stirling, in five folio volumes. The papers of Mr. Osgood, presented by Mr. Field, have also been bound in one volume. These are this evening upon the table. It is intended as fast as the subscription warrants, to extend the re-binding to all the other manuscripts, and in the same style.

The catalogue, which has been prepared by Mr. JACOB B. MOORE, presents not only a list of all these papers, but an index to their contents, similar to that contained in Mr. Force's National Archives, and followed by Mr. Brodhead, in his report to the state.

Besides these, there have also been arranged and bound three folio volumes of what are ordinarily termed "Broadsides," consisting of proclamations, hand-bills, and posters. Trivial as these may seem at first sight, an examination of the volumes will satisfy any one of the real intrinsic value even of such materials. They contain in fact much of the most curious history of the colony and of the revolution.

To one other subject the Librarian would ask the attention of the society. Directions were given at a former meeting to the Executive Committee to prepare for publication previous to the annual meeting in each year, a volume of collections. As the society are aware, a list of documents from which selections might be made, was at a previous meeting reported to the society, and by them recommitted with power. At the earliest possible moment the publication will be commenced.

In conclusion, the Librarian cannot take leave of the society without acknowledging the uniform care and attention of the gentlemen who have had the actual charge of the library during the six years, in which he has held the titular office. Mr. GEORGE H. MOORE, who has held the office of Assistant Librarian until the last summer, at that time resigned, and his father, Mr. JACOB B. MOORE, was induced to accept it. To them the society is under great obligations for the creditable condition which the library has assumed, and the great amount of labor which has been bestowed in obtaining it.

The Treasurer, (Professor MASON,) presented and read his annual statement of the condition of the finances of the Society; from which it appeared that he was in ad-

vance, on account of the society, in the sum of eight hundred dollars. His report states, however, that if the outstanding dues from the members shall be collected, there will be a balance in favor of the Society. His report further states, that the amounts, collected at various times for the benefit of the Library, have been appropriated to the objects specified, and the accounts of the expenditure accompany the report.

Gen. Prosper M. Wetmore, Chairman of the Executive Committee, then presented and read the annual report of that Committee, which follows:

Historical Rooms, January 4th, 1848.

In conformity with the Constitution of the Society, the Executive Committee have the honor to submit their Annual Report.

The bulletin published from time to time has made the members acquainted with the details of the proceedings at the stated meetings. That form of publication has been adopted in preference to the mode formerly pursued, of condensing the reports in an annual communication. The committee do not doubt that this change has met with the approbation of the members, and it is only to be regretted, that they have not more generally provided themselves with copies of the bulletin for preservation.

The year which terminates to night, has been fruitful in results of interest to the Society. The library and collections have been increased by the addition of many printed books of value, and a large number of useful maps and documents.

The laborious task of arranging, collating and completing, as far as possible, the files of newspapers, so long inaccessible for use, has been successfully accomplished, and our shelves now present one of the best collections of bound newspapers, comprising more than eleven hundred

volumes, possessed by any society in the country. This portion of the library is already of great value, and no opportunity should be allowed to pass unimproved to render it still more perfect.

A portion of the manuscripts relating to the revolution had been heretofore very imperfectly arranged, and it was determined by the Committee some months since, to have the whole collection carefully examined. Many of the volumes have been taken to pieces, and re-constructed in a manner which does infinite credit to the efficient officers by whom the labor has been performed. The binding of the Stirling and Osgood papers is finished, and the other series of similar documents will receive immediate attention.

A collection of rare and curious hand-bills, proclamations, and other publications of interest, during and anterior to the revolution, has been completed, and the volumes are carefully bound. This work forms an important addition to the library, under the title of Broad-Sides.

The indexes to the volumes of MSS. are in progress, and a perfect catalogue of this part of the collection has been completed. The catalogue of maps just finished comprises in number more than fifteen hundred, besides many bound in the Atlas form.

Another interesting work has recently been commenced and will be steadily pursued. Through the active exertions of two members of the Committee, a large number of daily newspapers, extending back for the period of two years, has been obtained, from which are to be cut the letters, official documents and statements, relating to the war in Mexico. These cuttings will be carefully collated and inserted in volumes, and will thus form a perfect contemporaneous account of all the events of the war. Authentic materials will thereby be provided for a future history of the most brilliant series of military actions to be found in the annals of this or any other

country. A faithful record will thus be secured of the skill, bravery, and devotion of those gallant men who have added fresh brilliancy to our national fame, from the pens of those who witnessed and participated in the glorious deeds they describe. It is believed that no work of a character similar to this exists, in reference to any portion of our history, and the committee have determined that it shall be rendered as perfect as possible.

For a more particular statement of the condition of the library and collections, the Committee refer to the report of the librarian, and commend the suggestions of that officer to the favorable consideration of the society.

It has been customary to present in the Annual Report, a review of the condition and prospects of the finances of the Society. This information has been given in the statement exhibited by the Treasurer this evening.

As nearly as an estimate can be formed from the data in possession of the Committee, the income from members is about $2,500, and the current expenses are about $2000. There are demands upon the treasury unanswered, but from the statement of the Treasurer there is reason to believe that when the collections for the dues of members, now considerably in arrear, are completed, sufficient will be realized to discharge all existing obligations.

A subscription was made during the year, to be devoted principally to arranging and binding the newspapers, and generally for the benefit of the library. Through the active exertions of Mr. William Chauncey this subscription was filled, and the sum of one thousand dollars was raised and appropriated, for the object indicated. The names of the generous donors were published in the monthly bulletin for April last.

A further subscription was subsequently commenced to raise the necessary funds to complete the arrangement of the documents relating to the revolution, upon the plan adopted with those of Lord Stirling and Samuel Osgood.

On this list three donations of fifty dollars each have been entered, and thanks therefor are due to the following gentlemen:

SAMUEL J. BEEBEE,
TOWNSEND HARRIS,
GEORGE FOLSOM.

It is very much to be desired that this amount should be increased to the sum of five hundred dollars, which will enable the librarian to complete this portion of his labors.

The interest which has been so generally manifested by the members in the prosperity of the society, has not been without its influence on the enlightened portion of the community. During the year the following increase has been made to our numbers:

Honorary members, . . .	5
Corresponding do. . . .	65
Resident do. . . .	98
Total	168

The stated meetings continue to be well attended, and are a popular and useful medium of intercourse among the members, affording opportunity for social converse, kindly interchange of friendship and agreeable toil in the search for historic truth. These councils enjoyed together for years by the enthusiastic, the studious and the learned, will not easily be forgotten by those who have been permitted to share in them.

It may not be unprofitable nor uninteresting, on the recurrence of another annual meeting, to glance at the origin, progress and condition of the society. Founded by a number of distinguished and public spirited citizens on the 20th November, 1804, it immediately became the centre of a strong local attraction. Most of the eminent men of our state have at different periods spared some of that time which they devoted to human advancement, to the meetings and proceedings of the society. However

wide their sphere or elevated their position, they have been ready to give to this repository of the past, some precious memorials, some bright and sparkling testimonials of their love of country, and their desire to collect and preserve the materials for its history.

Of the original founders, who assembled at the picture room, in the City Hall, forty-three years ago, but one survives, the venerable Dr. Samuel Miller, now of Princeton, New Jersey. The zeal of this excellent friend of historical research continues unabated even at his advanced age. He has quite recently been one of the active founders of a kindred society in the state of New Jersey; a society which has already given abundant evidence of the intelligence and ability with which its members enter upon their task of usefulness.

Of two hundred and nineteen of our resident and honorary members, elected prior to 1814, only forty-four are now among the living.

Of the nine distinguished citizens who have presided over the institution, our venerable President alone survives. The names of his deceased predecessors cannot be mentioned without awakening emotions of pride in the members of a body thus honored in the illustrious character of its officers. Egbert Benson, Gouverneur Morris, De Witt Clinton, David Hosack, James Kent, Morgan Lewis, Peter G. Stuyvesant, Peter Augustus Jay, and Albert Gallatin, have successively filled the chair of President of this society.

The nucleus of a library was formed in 1807, by the purchase of the collection of John Pintard, increased by numerous valuable donations of books from the members. Mr. Pintard was one of the most active of the founders of the society, and continued to evince an interest in its prosperity to the close of his long and eventful life. He filled for many years the office of secretary with great fidelity and advantage to the Society.

In 1809, the Academy of Arts, then a popular and

flourishing institution, occupying the edifice known as the Government House, at the Bowling Green, invited the Society to occupy a vacant room in that building, and the library was accordingly there established.

In 1816, on the sale of the Government House, the Corporation of the city provided accommodations for this and other public bodies, in the building then called the "New York Institution," in the rear of the new City Hall.

In 1832, the Library and collections were removed to a new hall in Remsen's building, at the corner of Broadway and Chambers street, from whence, in 1837, they were again removed to the building on Broadway, known as the Stuyvesant Institute. In 1844, upon the change of proprietorship in that building, it became necessary to secure other, and if possible more permanent accommodations, and an arrangement was effected with the government of the University, by which the rooms since occupied by the society were secured for a term of years.

The collection thus begun forty years ago, notwithstanding the inconveniences and discouragements, as well as the inevitable losses attending frequent removals, has grown to be one of great interest and importance—equal in value, if not in extent, to that possessed by any similar institution in the country. Instead of a few shelves in the "City Library," or a small room in the "Government House," our Library now occupies a large space, and, increasing steadily from year to year, will ere long require, and it is to be hoped will find, more ample accommodations than are now provided.

In looking back at the origin of the Society, and tracing its progress through nearly half of a century, how much may be found of interest to the philanthropist, how much to call up feelings of grateful recollection! Forty-three years ago that small band of patriotic citizens who founded the institution, with all their wise prescience, could scarcely have foreseen the results of the labor they then commenced. Some of them lived to see it pass

safely through many perils, and attain a distinguished place among the literary institutions of the country. The sole survivor remains to stimulate our exertions by the example of a life of usefulness and honor. May we not hope that the talents, scholarship and devotion of other days still live among us, and that their influences will be seen and felt in the future progress of the society.

The advantages resulting from the study of history and the collection of historical records, cannot be too strongly urged on the attention of the members of this society. In order that history may be written with truth, authentic materials must be provided. No generation comprises within its own knowledge and experience, all that is necessary to secure the integrity of its annals. It must rely upon records, it must examine and compare opinions, it must study the events of the past. It must have the means of investigation and analysis at hand. Collections like this by which we are surrounded, and which are designed to preserve the memories of other days, will be deemed of inestimable value by generations which are to come after us. Such works are a blessing to mankind, since they furnish men with a true standard of character, excite them to a noble emulation, keep alive the stimulus of honorable example and prevent that lapse of national reputation which would be unavoidable without the incitement and influence of great names and noble deeds.

History, we are told, is philosophy teaching by example, and the examples we have here been able to illustrate by the preservation of memorials of the past, have been enduring and effulgent. From many a dark chamber have we rescued the records of those glorious days when our fathers intent on liberty and the happiness of man, were engaged in "enterprises of great pith and moment," enterprises that shamed the laggards of former times and threw far into the future a brightness to become at once the light and the test of patriotism.

If the State of New York has been in any one respect

more than another elevated in her literary position, and sustained in her career of honor, it has been by the light which this Society has thrown upon her early history and the illustrious men of her early days.

In the time of the colonies, during the revolution, and since the formation of the federal constitution, the statesmen, lawyers, soldiers, men of genius, and patriotic citizens who have conferred honor and fame on our state, have neither been few in number, nor undistinguished among their illustrious contemporaries.

The volumes of our printed collections bear testimony to the faithfulness of this society to the objects for which it was founded, in the chaplets with which it has adorned the monuments of departed worth and greatness.

But the proper limits of an annual report forbid the further discussion of these topics, interesting as they must be to all who feel a regard for the character and desire to promote the welfare of the Society.

It is the appropriate though melancholy duty of the Committee to notice the departure of those of our associates whose labors have been brought to a close by death during the year. The good which they have accomplished in the cause which engages our attention, will live in our records, and it is fitting that a tribute of respect to their memories should there be found.

In commenting on our recent bereavements, the voice of eulogy will not fail to do justice to the memory of Peter Gerard Stuyvesant, the last but one of the founders of the Society, for several years its President, and always its judicious and earnest friend. The tidings of his death, unexpected and calamitous, fell with a startling suddenness upon those who had so short a time before met him in the fulness of health, in the active discharge of his duties on this floor. The name of a gallant and illustrious ancestor, who in the provincial times was distinguished for the qualities that adorn the soldier, the statesman, and the patriot, descended to one who bore it through life

with unspotted honor. A good and upright man has departed from our midst. The society has lost an early and constant friend.

Among the painful duties to be discharged on this occasion, it will devolve upon some of the members present to notice the decease of several of the honorary members of the society, men eminently distinguished in their public career, and whose names had become during their life time the property of history.

Of one it may indeed be said, that jurisprudence has lost its brightest ornament; that our society mourns one of its most enlightened benefactors. He has fallen under the stroke of death full of years and full of honors. A life of spotless purity, a mind of acute powers, a fame of unsullied brightness, a death tranquil and happy, point out to us the advantages of virtue and exertion, the usefulness of judicial and literary pursuits, and will forever hallow the memory of James Kent.

In mentioning the decease of Silas Wright, "*clarum et venerabile nomen*," it can scarcely be expected that this passing tribute will do more than bring to the recollection of the Society the great loss it has sustained. Illustrious for his virtues, eminent and faithful in every public trust, beloved in all the relations of life, he was stricken down in the day of his strength, in the midst of his usefulness, and in his grave lie buried the hopes of millions of his countrymen.

The departure of Timothy Pitkin, leaves another void among the eminent names on our roll. His valuable services to the country have given him a prominent place in the early pages of her history. His admirable statistical productions have long been regarded by historians and statesmen as models and authorities. His latter days were passed in retirement, and he leaves behind him the reputation of a patriot, a faithful public servant and a just man.

In the death of John Davis, of Boston, the cause of

historical and antiquarian research has lost an earnest and constant friend. Mr. Davis was extensively known as a learned antiquary, the annotator of Morton, and one of the founders of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

Our obituary catalogue contains also the names of Silas Wood, the historian of Long Island, and William Smith, of Quebec, son of the historian of New York, both of the class of honorary members, and both of them estimable in their public and private character. They will be remembered for their services in the cause of historical literature.

George H. Colton, a resident member, died in the month of December last. His contributions to history were in the form of lectures on the manners and customs of the North American Indians, which he delivered in the principal cities of the union. He was the author of a poem, Tecumseh, which obtained considerable celebrity. He was more generally known as the editor of the American Review.

In terminating their labors and surrendering their trust into the hands of the Society, the committee would but imperfectly discharge their duty if they failed again to present and urge upon the members the importance of securing, at the earliest possible moment, a safe depository for the property of the society. The collections by which we are surrounded are truly priceless. If by any disaster they should be destroyed, we might lament over a loss greater than that of the destruction of the library of Alexandria, a loss which no advance in science or the arts could possibly repair. Our books and manuscripts are not of an age of uncertainty, doubt and speculation, of gigantic edifices reared for objects without conclusions, but of an age which witnessed the prowess and the progress of intellectual, moral and religious liberty, the enfranchisement of a great People, and the founding of a mighty Empire.

To preserve inviolable these documents, more precious

than all the books of the Sybil, we must place them beyond the reach of danger. We require, and we must have, a building secure against conflagration, where may be disposed for convenient reference and examination, our books, our maps, our documents and pictures, and where future generations may find them intact and unharmed. By this course alone can we discharge ourselves faithfully of the trust committed to us.

A large and influential committee was constituted during the past year, to whom was confided the accomplishment of this great work of public utility. No report has yet been received from that committee, but it cannot be doubted that their influence and their public spirit will be earnestly exerted to ensure success to so commendable an undertaking.

There is wealth enough, there is patriotism enough in the city of our pride, to accomplish this desirable object, this indispensable duty. Energetic measures should be taken at once to remove the stigma which has so long rested upon us, of exposing these invaluable collections to destruction by fire. When shall this reproach be removed? When will the public spirit of New York emulate that of other cities, in providing suitable depositories for the records of history? Let it become the sacred duty, the grateful privilege of the members of this society to furnish a prompt and patriotic response.

Upon concluding the reading of this report, Gen. WETMORE said:

Mr. President,—Five years have elapsed since the Society determined upon the re-organization of a standing committee for the management of its executive business. A similar body had formerly existed, but for a number of years previously had been discontinued. In forming the Committee, the venerable President did me the honor to appoint me its Chairman, and I have continued, with

whatever of zeal and ability I possess, to discharge the duties of the office to the present time.

I am proud and happy in being able to say, that during this period the Society has become established in the public favor, and has largely extended its sphere of usefulness.

The termination of an intercourse so agreeable and instructive as that which grows out of duties like these, cannot but be the occasion of regret. It is impossible that any frequent attendant upon our meetings, can avoid partaking of the spirit which dwells within these walls. Around us, on every side, are evidences of what has been done to preserve our historical fame, to raise from oblivion many illustrious memories, and many glorious deeds.

Grateful as these associations have been to me, the pressing nature of other avocations admonishes me that they must terminate. In surrendering the trust confided to me, I must be permitted to return my cordial thanks to the members of the Committee for their zealous assistance in the discharge of duties alike laborious and responsible; and my grateful acknowledgments to the Society for its long continued and generous confidence.

With unabated zeal for the cause in which the Society is engaged, I now respectfully tender my resignation as Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Professor M'Vickar, in some remarks highly complimentary to the Chairman of the Executive Committee, earnestly opposed his resignation, and moved that the same be laid upon the table; which motion being supported by Mr. Hone and Mr. W. Chauncey, was adopted.

Mr. William Chauncey, from the committee appointed at the meeting held the 1st of June last, for the purpose of raising funds to erect a fire proof building for the collections of the Society, stated that in consequence of the death of Mr. Stuyvesant, its chairman, the committee had not taken action on the subject; that it was the intention, however, of the committee to do so at an early period.

Whereupon it was ordered by the Society, that the committee be continued with its original powers.

Mr. Gibbs, the Librarian, and Mr. Jay, the Domestic Corresponding Secretary, severally announced their determination to decline a re-election.

The Society then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, when the following gentlemen were declared to be unanimously elected :—

Hon. Albert Gallatin, LL. D., President.
Hon. Luther Bradish, First Vice President.
Rev. Thomas De Witt, D. D., Second Vice President,
John Russell Bartlett, Foreign Corresponding Secretary.
James W. Beekman, Domestic Corresponding Secretary.
Andrew Warner, Recording Secretary.
William Chauncey, Treasurer.
Jacob Bailey Moore, Librarian.

The following gentlemen were appointed the Executive Committee for the ensuing year, viz :

Prosper M. Wetmore,
Erastus C. Benedict,
Edward Robinson, D. D.
Frederick De Peyster,
Augustus Schell,
George Gibbs,
John Jay.

A committee was then appointed to audit the accounts of the Treasurer for the last two years, consisting of the following gentlemen, viz :

Joseph Fowler,
Charles H. Russell,
John P. Crosby.

The presiding officer, Mr. BRADISH, then rose and said :—

Fellow Members,—Again I have to call the society to the performance of a melancholy, but in many respects, grateful duty. Short as has been the period since we last met, it has been marked by an event which has shrouded the community in gloom, and filled the hearts of all with grief. The ordinary Great live and die, and their memories, in "the arrowy flight of time," pass away and are gone. The ephemeral records of their lives and their deeds are mere footprints in sand on the shores of time. The ever returning flood rolls over them, and leaves no trace behind.

Not so the master spirits of an age. They so stamp the impress of their minds and character upon its annals, that no current of time can wear them out, or sensibly impair their distinctness. They erect monuments and leave behind them lights, which mark their passage across the age, and which serve to instruct and guide those who come after them.

Such, in the current of time, although often at long intervals, are those master-minds which, as lights along the track of ages, have served to enlighten and elevate man, to adorn his history, and in a great degree determine his character and his destiny. Such have been the distinguished names which, as bright and beacon points, stand out in bold and beautiful relief, on the chart of man's history. And such emphatically was our own JAMES KENT.

At the close of a long and beautifully ordered life, he has recently, in the Providence of GOD, been taken from our midst. But although removed from our personal observation and intercourse, yet the influence of his beautiful life, his character, and his example, still remains to us as an invaluable heritage. Although personally gone from among us, yet his memory and his works shall live to instruct and influence, while the language in which they are embodied and which they adorn, shall continue

to be the record and the medium of human thought; or while those great principles of right which he labored so successfully to elucidate and establish, and that civilization which he contributed so essentially to advance, shall endure.

The veneration in which I hold the *character* and *talents* of this eminently great and good man, would restrain me from any attempted description of them, even if such attempt were otherwise proper in me at this time and from this place. They are both among the garnered treasures of the country; have contributed to elevate its national character; and have added to the value of each individual citizen's birthright.

The Future, as the Present, will do them both justice. The name of KENT is emphatically a name of History. His life and his death will stand prominently forth on the enduring records of his age. It is right and fitting, therefore, that a Society, whose appropriate office it is to gather up the fleeting occurrences of time, and preserve them as elements of future history, should suitably notice both. But this society has, in the relation which existed between it and the distinguished deceased, a nearer motive for noticing in a proper manner, his life, his character, and his death. In addition to the deep sympathies which on this occasion she shares in common with the public, this society, in the death of JAMES KENT, mourns the loss of one of her earliest and most distinguished members, and for four years her President. It is peculiarly fitting and proper, therefore, that she should notice, in a particular manner, an event which has thus deprived her of a venerated member and officer, the Republic of a most distinguished citizen, Humanity of a brilliant ornament, and the world of a benefactor.

Forbearing then all further remark, and with this simple announcement, I would invoke, on this occasion, such action as may become its subject, and the character of this Society.

Mr. Charles King, after some remarks upon the character and eminent public services of the late Chancellor Kent, submitted the following resolutions:

Resolved, That in the death of JAMES KENT, for many successive years a Justice of the Supreme Court of this State, and subsequently Chancellor thereof—who was a member, and for four years, from 1828 to 1832, President of this Society,—the New York Historical Society, in common with this State, and with the whole nation, has sustained an irreparable loss.

Resolved, That while it more appropriately belongs to the profession which he adorned, and to the country which he loved and served, to commemorate the lucid order and comprehensive grasp of his invaluable judicial labors; the classic finish which imparts to his immortal "Commentaries," such rare literary attraction; and above all the beauty, simplicity, and purity of his daily life—it is the special duty and melancholy satisfaction of this society, in deploring the loss of such an associate, to bear record that here too were deeply felt the influence of the mind, the virtues, and the character of JAMES KENT—and that here too he leaves memorials of that devotion to all good studies and pursuits, which tend at once to illustrate our history in the past, and to render it worthy of emulation in the future.

Resolved, That in placing among the honored names of our departed Presidents, that of JAMES KENT, we add to a roll already illustrious, a name second to none other on it in all the qualities which constitute the Christian, the upright man, the profound jurist, the ripe scholar, the instructive teacher, the true hearted patriot, the lamented associate and friend.

The Hon. David B. Ogden rose and addressed the society in an eloquent and impressive eulogy upon the character of Chancellor Kent—his great capacity and integrity as a judge, his profound acquirements as a scholar, his unwavering love of country, and the high moral qualities

in social and private life, which characterized him as the Christian and the friend.

Mr. Ogden was followed by Mr. Philip Hone, the Hon. Benjamin F. Butler, Rev. Dr. McVickar, Rev. Mr. Hatfield, and Mr. J. P. Simpson, in remarks upon the character of the illustrious deceased; when the resolutions were unanimously adopted.

On motion of Mr. Hallett, it was ordered, that a copy of the resolutions just adopted should be furnished to the family of the deceased.

The following resolutions, offered by Mr. Gibbs, were adopted:

Resolved, That the proposals of Messrs. Bartlett & Welford, for the regular publication and sale of the Collections of the society, be referred to the Executive Committee, with power.

Resolved, That the duty of procuring from the different states of the Union, their public documents, be transferred from the Domestic Corresponding Secretary, to the Librarian.

The Rev. Dr. Griswold offered the following resolutions, which were severally adopted:

Resolved, That the Domestic Corresponding Secretary communicate to the family of the honorable Timothy Pitkin, the sympathy and condolence of this society, with them in their bereavement, and the expression of its respect for his memory and his character.

Resolved, That the society has heard with regret of the death of William Smith, of Canada, an honorary member, the third of his family whose lives have been connected with our history, and who, though expatriated since the revolution, never justly forfeited the respect of the citizens of the state whose colonial annals they adorned and illustrated.

Resolved, That the society has heard with regret of the death of George H. Colton, a member of this society, a young gentleman of highly cultivated taste, of great personal worth, and at the time of his decease, the editor of a prominent periodical in our city.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

STATED MEETING, FEBRUARY 1, 1848.

The Rev. Thomas De Witt, D. D., Second Vice President, in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Domestic Corresponding Secretary, announced the reception, since the last meeting, of communications from Rev. A. Cleveland Coxe, of Hartford, Conn.; Horace Binney, Jr. Esq., Philadelphia; A. B. Morrell, of Mobile, Ala.; John R. Thompson, Esq., of Richmond, Va., enclosing autographs of George Wythe, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and of Gen. Weedon, of revolutionary memory; from Rev. Samuel H. Cox, D. D., of Brooklyn; and from W. A. Whitehead, Corresponding Secretary of the New Jersey Historical Society, communicating the thanks of that Society for permitting copies to be taken of the Stirling Papers, in possession of this Society.

The Librarian announced the additions to the Library, since the last meeting, as follows:—

BY DONATION.

Forty-Ninth Annual Report of the Regents of the University of the State of New York, 1846.

Annual Report of the Comptroller of the City of New York, of the Receipts and Expenditures of the Corporation of the City of New York, for the years 1845 and 1846.

Rules of the Circuit Court of the U. S., for the Southern District of New York, second circuit. New York, 1838.

Rules and Orders of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Queens, adopted 24 June, 1840. Jamaica, 1840.

Rules of Practice of the Superior Court of the City of New York. New York, 1843.

Rules and Orders of the Court of Common Pleas, for the City and County of New York. New York, 1840.

Rules and Orders of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, 1837, and 1845.

Rules of the Superior Court for the Southern Judicial District of Florida—in admiralty. New York, 1840.

The Fire Laws of the City of New York, the Fire Limits, the Builder's Lien Law of 1830 and 1844, with the amendments of 1845. New York, 1845.

The Road Act. The Statutes of New York, in relation to Highways, Bridges and Ferries, with Commentaries; also an Appendix, containing all the forms and precedents to be read under said statutes. By a Counsellor at Law. Rochester, 1845.

Rules and Regulations in Bankruptcy, adopted by the Circuit and District Courts of the United States for the Southern District of New York. New York, 1842.

An Alphabetical List of Applicants for the benefit of the Bankrupt Act, passed Aug. 19, 1841, within the Southern District of New York. New York, 1843.

Field, David Dudley. What shall be done with the Practice of the Courts? Shall it be wholly reformed? Questions addressed to Lawyers. New York, 1847.

Gallatin, Albert. Peace with Mexico. Washington, 1846.

[Callender, James Thompson.] The Prospect before us. Vol. I. and Part I. of Vol. II. Richmond, 1800.

Hull, William. Memoirs of the Campaign of the North Western Army of the United States, A. D. 1812. Boston, 1824.

Congressional Directory, 1st Session, 28th Congress. Washington, 1844.

The U. S. Almanack, or Complete Ephemeris, for 1843. Philadelphia, 1843.

[Kennedy, John P.] Defence of the Whigs. By a Member of the 27th Congress. New York, 1844.

Collection of Speeches in Congress, 1842—1846, on the public questions of the day—65 in number.

[Giddings, J. R.] Pacificus; or the Rights and Privileges of the several States in regard to Slavery.

The Creole Case, and Mr. Webster's Despatch; with the Comments of the New York American. New York, 1842.

Phillips, Stephen C. An Address on the Annexation of Texas, and the aspect of Slavery in the United States, in connection the re-
with. Delivered in Boston, Nov. 14 & 18, 1845. Boston, 1845.

A Tract for the Day. How to conquer Texas, before Texas conquers us. Boston, 1845.

Palfrey, John G. Papers on the Slave Power, first published in the "Boston Whig." 8vo. Boston.

Clay, Cassius M. Address to the People of Kentucky. Lexington, 1845.

Tappan, Lewis. Address to the Non Slaveholders of the South, on the Social and Political Evils of Slavery. New York, 1843.

Remarks on the Currency of the United States, and present state and future prospects of the Country. By Publius. 1840. Also, Additional Remarks on the Currency of the United States. By Publius. New York. 1841.

Lord, Eleazar. On Credit, Currency and Banking. 3d edition. 12mo. New York, 1834.

Letter to the Members of the Pennsylvania Legislature, on the subject of the State Debt. By Publius. Phil., 1844.

Speed, J. J. Letter to a Landholder of Maryland, on the subject of Repudiation. Baltimore, 1842.

Political System: or Politics scientifically discussed. By Unus. Flushing, 1843.

The Crisis, and the Remedy. By Publius. New York, 1842.

Plan of a Currency Association tended to obviate the honest objections of all parties, and to meet the views of moderate men of both parties. 1842.

Sumner, Charles. The Grandeur of Nations: an Oration delivered before the Authorities of the City of Boston, July 4, 1845. Boston, 1845.

Bethune, George W. The Eloquence of the Pulpit, with Illustrations from St. Paul. An Oration before the Porter Rhetorical

Society of the Theological Seminary, at Andover, Mass., 1842. Andover, 1842.

Moulton, Joseph W. New York, 170 years ago, with a View, and Explanatory Notes. New York, 1843.

Lewis, Tayler. A Discourse on the True Idea of the State as a Religious Institution, together with the Family and the Church, ordained of God, delivered Sept. 5, 1843, before the Porter Rhetorical Society of the Theological Seminary, Andover, Mass. Andover, 1843.

A Brief Sketch of the Life and Public Services of William Henry Harrison. New York, 1835.

Quincy, Josiah. The Memory of the late James Grahame, the Historian of the United States, vindicated from the charges of "detraction" and "calumny" preferred against him by Mr. George Bancroft, and the conduct of Mr. Bancroft towards that historian stated and exposed. Boston, 1846.

Emerson, G. An Address delivered at Laurel Hill Cemetery, on the Completion of a Monument erected to the Memory of Thomas Godfrey. June 1, 1843. Phil., 1843.

Hazard, Rowland G. Essay on the Philosophical Character of Channing. Boston, 1845.

Smith, Hugh. The Theory and Regulation of Public Sentiment. An Address delivered before the Alumni of Columbia College, Oct. 5, 1842. New York, 1842.

Bellows, Henry W. Discourse occasioned by the Death of William Ellery Channing, D. D., pronounced before the Unitarian Societies of New York and Brooklyn. Oct. 13, 1842. New York, 1842.

Wood, John. A correct statement of the various sources from which the History of the Administration of John Adams was compiled, and the motives for its suppression, by Col. Burr; with some observations on A Naïve, by a citizen of New-York. 2d edition, corrected with respect be[illegible] New York, 1802.

Putnam, George. An Oration delivered [illegible]mbridge, before the Phi Beta Kappa Society, in Harvard Univ[illegible] Aug. 29, 1844. Boston, 1844.

Remarks upon an Oration delivered at Cambridge, by George Putnam, before the Phi Beta Kappa Society, in Harvard University, Aug. 29, 1844, by a Member of the Suffolk Bar. Boston, 1844.

Reflections on the Conservative Elements of the American Republic. By a Lady. Chillicothe, 1842.

Inquiries respecting the History, Present Condition, and Future Prospects of the Indian Tribes of the United States. (Schoolcraft's Circular. 4to.)

Reed, William B. A Letter on American History. Phil., 1847.

Woodruff, George C. History of the Town of Litchfield, Conn. Litchfield, 1845.

Potter, Elisha R. Considerations on the Questions of the Adoption of a Constitution and Extension of Suffrage in Rhode Island. Boston, 1842.

A Statement of the Frauds on the Elective Franchise in the city of New York, in the fall of 1838, and the spring of 1839. By James B. Glentworth. New York, 1841.

Mackenzie, William L. The Life and Times of Martin Van Buren, with the Correspondence of his Friends, Family and Pupils. Boston, 1846.

Frauds on the Naturalization Laws.

The Pope and the Presbyterians. A Review of the warning of Jefferson, respecting the dangers to be apprehended to our Civil and Religious Liberties from Presbyterianism. By an American citizen. Phil., 1845.

Shepard, Charles U. Geology of Upper Illinois. [From Journal of Science and Arts, No. 1, Vol. 34.]

Francis, John W. A Discourse delivered upon the opening of the New Hall of the New York Lyceum of Natural History. New York, 1841.

Bryan, John A. Letter on the Union of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, at or near the Isthmus of Panama. 1845.

Gibbs, Oliver Wolcott. An Inaugural Dissertation on a Natural System of Chemical Classification. Princeton, 1845.

Smith, John Augustine. The Mutations of the Earth; or an outline of the more remarkable physical changes, of which in the progress of time, this Earth has been the subject and the theatre; including an Examination into the Scientific errors of the author of "the Vestiges of Creation;" being the Anniversary Discourse for 1846, before the New York Lyceum of Natural History. New York, 1846.

Genealogical and Biographical Account of the Family of Drake, in America, with some notices of the antiquities connected with the early times of persons of the name in New England. 12mo. Boston, 1845.

Benson, Egbert. Memoir read before the Historical Society of the State of New York, 31 December, 1816. 8vo. New York, 1817.

Rains, George W. Practical Observations on the generation of Statical Electricity by the Electrical Machine. New Haven, 1845.

Sargent, John O. A Lecture on the late improvements in Steam Navigation and the Arts of Naval Warfare, with a brief notice of Ericsson's Caloric Engine; delivered before the Boston Lyceum. New York. 1844.

Schuyler, George L. Letter to the Hon. W. Gwin, concerning the steam ship Kamschatka. New York, 1843. *The preceding, pamphlets, (64 in number,) the Gift of George Gibbs.*

The Journals and Documents of the Second Session of the Twenty-Ninth Congress. 10 vols. Also, Vol. III. Reports of Committees, First Session, 29th Congress, (completing set for that Session.)—*Gift of Congress, received through Frederick De Peyster, Esq.*

Laws of the State of Indiana, for 1845, 1846, and 1847; Documents for 1845; Documentary Journals for 1844–1847; and Owen's Geological Report, for 1839. 8 vols.—*Gift of the State of Indiana.*

Proceedings of the Public Demonstration of Sympathy with Pope Pius IX. and with Italy, in the city of New York, on Monday, Nov. 29, 1847. New York, 1847.—*Gift of John C. Devereux.*

Hoffman, C. F. The Pioneers of New York. An Anniversary Discourse delivered before the St. Nicholas Society of Mahattan, Dec. 6, 1847. New York, 1848.—*Gift of the Author.*

Dillingham, William H. An Oration delivered before the Society of the Sons of New England of Philadelphia, Dec. 22, 1847. Phila. 1847.—*Gift of the Author.*

Report of the Joint Library Committee of the Legislature of New York, on the subject of International Exchanges, 1847. [Revised Edition.]—*Gift of Prosper M. Wetmore.*

Dix, Miss D. L. Memorial soliciting enlarged and improved accommodations for the Insane of the State of Tennessee, by the establishment of a new hospital. Nashville, 1847.—*Gift of the Author.*

Life of Jeremy Belknap, D. D., the Historian of New Hampshire. With selections from his correspondence and other writings. Collected and arranged by his grand-daughter. New York, 1847.—*Gift of the Rev. Rufus W. Griswold.*

Porter, William S. Historical Notices of Connecticut, published under the patronage of the Connecticut Historical Society. Nos. 1 and 2. Hartford, 1842.—*Gift of Edwin Hubbard.*

Goodwin, Nathaniel. Descendants of Thomas Olcott, one of the first settlers of Hartford, Conn.—*Gift of Edwin Hubbard.*

Hinman, R. R. A catalogue of the First Puritan Settlers of the Colony of Connecticut. Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4.—*Gift of Edwin Hubbard.*

Bases de Organizacion Politica de la Republica Mexicana, 1842.—*Gift of Capt. H. C. Wayne, U. S. A.*

Dos años en Mexico. O memorias criticas sobre los principales sucesos de la Republica de los Estadose-Unidos Mexicanos, desde la invasion de Barradas, hasta la declaracion del Puerto de Tampico contra el gobierno del gral. Bustamente. Escritas por un Español. Mexico, 1840.—*Gift of Capt. H. C. Wayne.*

Correspondencia que ha mediado entre la Legacion Extraordinaria de Mexico y el Departamento de Estado de los Estados-Unidos, sobre el paso del Sabina por las tropas que mandaba el General Gaines. Mexico, 1837.—*Gift of Capt. H. C. Wayne, U. S. A.*

Vindicacion del General Manuel Rincon ante el Consejo de Guerra que lo Juzgó en 7 y 8 de Febrero del corriente año, por los acontecimientos desgraciados de Ulua y Vera Cruz en los dias 27 y 28 Noviembre de 1838. Mexico, 1840.—*Gift of Capt. H. C. Wayne, U. S. A.*

Longworth's New York Directory, for 1839—40.—*Gift of William Van Norden.*

Watt, Peter. The Theory and practice of Joint Stock Banking, (in England.) New York, 1836.

Dow, Lorenzo. Analectic History, touching Nullification, Northern and Southern. The last Warning. Washington, 1834.

A collection of sundry Publications and Documents in relation to the attack of British ships upon the private armed brig General Armstrong of New York, at the Island of Fayal, in Sept. 1844. New York 1833.

Dewey, Orville. On Reading: a Lecture delivered before the General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen of the City of New York. New York, 1839..

Spring, Gardiner. An Address before the Mercantile Library Association of the City of New York. New York, 1837.

Catalogues of the Apprentices' Library in the City of New York, 1839 and 1846.

Charter and By-Laws of the General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen of the City of New York. 1839 and 1847.

Bolton, William. Narrative of the last cruise of the U. S. Steam Frigate Missouri, with the circumstances of her burning at Gibraltar. Boston, 1843.

Town, Ithiel. The outlines of a plan for establishing in New York an Academy and Institution of the Fine Arts. New York, 1835.

Everett, Edward. Address before the American Institute of the City of New York, at their Fourth Annual Fair, Oct. 14, 1831. New York, 1831.

Fisher, Samuel W. The close of the Christian Conflict Desirable. A sermon delivered in the Fourth Presbyterian Church, Albany, on the occasion of the funeral of Capt. Richard Winslow. New York, 1847.

Seventeen Numbers, under the signature of Neckar, upon the causes of the Present Distress of the Country, with a proposed remedy. By a citizen of New York. New York, 1837.

Staples, J. B. The General Bankrupt Law, with an introduction, containing observations upon its Constitutionality, Expediency, &c., with references, instructions and forms. New York, 1842.

Greene, John P. Facts relative to the expulsion of the Mormons, or Latter day Saints, from the State of Missouri, under the "Exterminating Order." Cincinnati, 1839.—*The preceding,* (14 *in number,*) *the Gift of Wm. Van Norden.*

The Historical Register, for the year 1727. (Completing the set in the Library, from 1714 to 1737.—*Gift of Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield.*

[Middleton, Henry, Jr.] Four Essays—The Science of Political Economy; Political Economy and Industry, and their Relations; Impolicy of Protective Duties; A Position of the Friends of the High Tariff examined.—Reprint. Philadelphia 1847.—*Gift of Rev. R. W. Griswold.*

The Ancestral Register—An engraved sheet for Family Genealogies. By Edwin Hubbard.—*Gift of the Author.*

A Custom House Stamp, from Mexico.—*Gift of Capt. H. C. Wayne, U. S. A.*

Map of the State of Florida, compiled in the Bureau of Topographical Engineers, from the best authorities, by J. G. Bruff, 1846.—*Gift of Hon. D. S. Dickinson.*

Withers, Alexander S. Chronicles of Border Warfare, or a His-

tory of the settlement by the whites of North-Western Virginia, and of the Indian Wars and Massacres in that section of the State, with reflections, anecdotes, &c. 12mo. Clarksburg, Va. 1831.—*Gift of the Librarian.*

Tegg, Thomas. Chronology, or the Historian's Companion; being an authentic register of events from the earliest period to the present time, comprehending an epitome of universal history, with a copious list of the most eminent men in all ages of the world. 12mo. London, 1829.—*Gift of the Librarian.*

Biörck Tobias Er. The Plantation of the Swedish Church in America. [A rare and valuable Tract, printed in Latin, at Upsal, in 1731.]—*Gift of Hon. George Folsom.*

Fragments sur l'uniformité a introduire dans les Notations Géographiques, sur les Antiquites Américaines, et sur divers points de Géographie.—*Gift of the Author, M. Jomard, of Paris.*

Coston's sylvic Gas Light—Account of. Boston, 1847.—*Gift of Prosper M. Wetmore.*

Great National Thoroughfare from the West and South-West, into New England, by the Northern or lake route, from New Orleans to New York, Boston, and Portland. Dec. 1847.—*Gift of Prosper M. Wetmore.*

Map of the mineral lands of Lake Superior—with a letter from the Secretary of War, of June, 1846, transmitting report on that subject.—*Gift of Prosper M. Wetmore.*

Simms, William Gilmore. Self Development—an Oration delivered before the literary societies of Oglethorpe University, Georgia, Nov. 10, 1847. Milledgeville, 1847.—*Gift of the Author.*

A Collection of original Manuscripts, bound in four small volumes. —*Deposited by the Librarian.*

The Correspondence, Letters, and Papers, of the Hon. Mesheck Weare, the first President of New Hampshire, in ten folio volumes—embracing numerous valuable original documents, relating to the history of that State, from 1680, to 1786, with a Chronological Index to the whole.—*Deposited by the Librarian.*

MS. Decree, dated at Mexico, in Dec. 1842, containing the autograph signatures of President Santa Anna, and M. Bocanegra.—*Gift of Capt. H. C. Wayne, U. S. A.*

MSS. Mexican General Orders, Orderly Books, and other Papers, captured with the baggage of Gen. Arista, at the battle of Resaca

de la Palma.—*Gift of N. S. Jarvis, Surgeon and Medical Director, U. S. Army, through Gen. Wetmore.*

BY PURCHASE.

Perkins, Samuel. Historical Sketches of the United States from the Peace of 1815 to 1830. 12mo. New York, 1830.

Carey, M. The Olive Branch: or Faults on both sides, Federal and Democratic. A Serious Appeal on the necessity of Mutual Forgiveness and Harmony. 4th edition, enlarged. 12mo. 2 vols. Phila. 1815.

The Treaty—its Merits and Demerits fairly discussed and displayed. [Containing Jay's Treaty; the Essays of "the Federalist," published in the Boston Centinel; Essays of "the Constitutionalist," published in the Independent Chronicle; Letter of Washington to the Selectmen of Boston; Proceedings of the Boston Chamber of Commerce; Speech of Fisher Ames, 28th of April, 1796.]

Patriotism and Piety. The Speeches of his Excellency Caleb Strong, Esq., to the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; with their Answers; and other official Public Papers of his Excellency, from 1800 to 1807. 12mo. Newburyport, 1808.

An Answer to certain parts of a work published by Mathew Carey, entitled "The Olive Branch, or Faults on Both Sides," by a Federalist. 12mo. New York, 1816.

[Sullivan, William.] Familiar Letters on Public Characters and Public Events, from the Peace of 1783 to the Peace of 1815. 12mo. 2d edition. Boston, 1834.

Ticknor, George. Syllabus of a Course of Lectures on the History and Criticism of Spanish Literature. 8vo. Cambridge, 1823.

Massachusetts. The Patriotic Proceedings of the Legislature of Massachusetts, during their session from Jan. 26, to March 4, 1809. 8vo. Boston, 1809.

Correspondence between the Hon. John Adams, late President of the United States, and the late William Cunningham, Esq., beginning in 1803, and ending in 1812. 8vo. Boston, 1823.

Pickering, Timothy. A Review of the Correspondence between the Hon. John Adams, late President of the United States, and the late William Cunningham, Esq., beginning in 1803, and ending in 1812. 8vo. Salem, 1824.

Otis, Harrison Gray. Letters in Defence of the Hartford Convention, and the People of Massachusetts. [Originally published in the Boston Centinel.] 8vo. Boston, 1824.

Reynolds, J. N. Address on the subject of a Surveying and Exploring Expedition to the Pacific Ocean and South Seas. Delivered in the Hall of the House of Representatives on the evening of the 3d April, 1836. With Correspondence and Documents. 8vo. New York, 1836.

Debates in the House of Representatives on the Bills for carrying into effect the Louisiana Treaty. 8vo. Phila. 1804.

Scott, Maj. Gen. Winfield. Proceedings of the Military Court of Inquiry in the case of. [Failure of the Florida Campaign of 1836, &c.] 8vo. Washington, 1837.

Delaplaine's Repository of the Lives and Portraits of Distinguished American Characters. Vol I. and Part 1, of Vol. II. 4to. Phil. 1815–1818.

The Librarian informed the Society, that the first part of a new volume of collections was now in press, and would be completed at an early day.

He also stated for the information of members, that the second volume of the History of New Netherlands, by Dr. O'Callaghan, was now in the press, embracing the administration of Gov. Stuyvesant, from 1647 to 1664. This volume, like the first, has been written principally from original records. It will give the details of the popular movement which led to the first incorporation of this city—the separation of the city of Albany from Van Rensselaer's Colonie—the expulsion of the Dutch from the Connecticut, and the Swedes from the Delaware.—It will be particularly rich in church history and in transactions between the Indians and Europeans—and enter elaborately into the history of the Esopus War—and of those events on Long Island which preceded the surrender of the Dutch possessions here to the English, and which have not, as yet, been noted by any writer on our earlier history. Among the papers in the Appendix will be given a list of the early grants of land down to 1664,

with the names of the patentees. It will be accompanied by a map, and other embellishments.

In view of the above publication, Rev. Dr. De Witt made a few remarks, recommending it in the most enthusiastic terms.

Professor Robinson, from the Executive Committee, made a report on the nominations referred to that committee, recommending the following candidates for election, who were thereupon elected, viz :—

CORRESPONDING MEMBER.

CHARLES JAMES LANMAN, Norwich, Conn.

RESIDENT MEMBERS.

URIAH P. LEVY, U. S. N.
GARDNER M. PECK,
WILLIAM B. CAMPBELL,
DAVID CODWISE,
JOHN TRENOR,
WILLIS HALL,
SENECA DURAND,
JOHN C. HURD,
MAXIMILIAN RADER.

On motion of Mr. Gibbs,

Resolved, That the publication of the monthly bulletin of proceedings be discontinued.

Mr. Joseph Fowler, from the committee appointed to audit the accounts of the Treasurer, stated that they would be prepared to report at the next meeting.

Professor Mason read a letter from the Rev. Gorham D. Abbott, of this city, a member of the Society, presenting to the Society a manuscript in the French language, being the original record of the Huguenotic Church at New Rochelle, containing baptisms and marriages by the Pastor, M. Jean Carle, from April 1756, to July, 1764, and stating that a number of interesting Huguenotic manuscripts on parchment and paper came under his view during a three years residence at New Rochelle, some of which could, doubtless, at this time be collected and de-

posited in the library of the Society. Mr. Abbott adds, that, being impressed with the conviction that justice has never yet been done to the Huguenotic element in the early formation of our institutions, suggests that some steps should be taken by the Society, to collect and preserve the memorials of their history, and the traces of their influence. It seems to be almost forgotten in our country, that the very "Cradle of American Liberty," the old Faneuil Hall at Boston, bears the name of a Huguenot.

Professor Mason submitted the following resolution, which, after some remarks from Mr. Joseph C. Hart, in support of the proposition, was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be tendered to the Rev. Mr. Abbott, for the Huguenot Manuscript presented through Professor Mason, and that he be requested to continue his researches for such other manuscripts as may be found in Westchester county.

Archibald Russell, Esq., a member of the Society, and author of a work on the "Principles of Statistical Inquiry," now rose and asked the attention of the Society to a subject which he considered entirely kindred to the objects of its organization, viz., the census to be taken in 1850. It is a remarkable fact that the census taken in this country in 1790, was the first entire enumeration of the inhabitants of a modern nation. The first census in England was taken in 1801, and in France in 1817. And not only was this country the first to take a complete census, but each succeeding census has been an improvement upon its predecessor—in 1790 only six queries were returned by the Marshals, in 1800 thirteen were returned, in 1810 the same number, in 1820, 28, in 1830, 63, and in 1840, 289 were so returned.

But while the amount of information sought for has been vastly multiplied, the accuracy has by no means kept pace with it. Numerous errors are to be detected in the census of 1840, more than are fairly incident to a

work of the kind. In Boston, the inhabitants in the 8th Ward were returned under the head of the 10th Ward, and vice versa. The State took a census of Boston the same year, and it shows 84,000 inhabitants, while the United States census shows 93,000, or 9,000 more. In New Jersey, there was a state enumeration of the insane and idiot persons, and about seven hundred were reported, while the United States census only returns four hundred and thirty in that unfortunate condition. Various other errors might be alluded to, but it is not intended to cavil or find fault unnecessarily.

With a view of profiting by the experience of the past, I would refer to the causes of these errors. The act authorizing the census of 1840 was introduced by Mr. Garland, without any consultation with the departments or with any appropriate committee. The bill contained a number of mistakes; the word January was inserted in place of June; the Marshals were required to return their schedules at a date prior to the time at which their assistants were required to furnish them with them—and to show the inaccuracy of the manner in which the census was taken, Mr. Weaver, who had charge of it, says that upwards of 20,000 errors were discovered in the returns from Massachusetts.

Under these circumstances, it is proposed to memorialize Congress to take the subject of the census of 1850, into early consideration, with a view to having due preparation made for it.

Mr. Russell thereupon offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of five persons be appointed to prepare a memorial to Congress, praying it to take into early consideration the arrangements which may be necessary to ensure a correct census in 1850, and that the committee be authorized to transmit said memorial to Congress on behalf of the Society.

The following gentlemen were appointed the committee under said resolution, viz :

Archibald Russell,
The President of the Society,
William Jay,
Benjamin F. Butler,
George Folsom.

Mr. Joseph Fowler, after some remarks, submitted the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be presented to the members of the Executive Committee, and in an especial manner to the Chairman, Prosper M. Wetmore, Esq., for the faithful and diligent discharge of their duties during the periods in which they have held their offices, and that the Librarian be authorized to cause a copy of the publications of the Society to be handsomely bound, and in its name, presented to Mr. Wetmore.

Professor O. W. Morris read a paper on "Indian Names," &c., as applicable to localities and natural objects in New York. He remarked that the appropriate name by which an Indian designated a place, was one the signification of which could hardly be mistaken by a stranger; for it invariably had reference to some prominent natural object, and he expressed the general regret that the expressive aboriginal names of so many of our mountains, lakes, and streams, have been arbitrarily changed, to give importance to individuals, or to gratify a veneration for antiquity. Professor Morris gave some very interesting illustrations; and proceeded to remark at length upon the signification and general harmony of Indian names; upon the relics of the red race which are found in the valley of the Mohawk and upon the borders of the Hudson; their ancient burial places, the remains of their ancient fortifications and villages, and the tradi-

tions which belong to their history. His address was listened to with interest.

At the conclusion of which, on motion of Mr. James W. Beekman, the thanks of the Society were tendered to Professor Morris, for the interesting paper just read, and a copy was requested to be placed among the archives of the Society.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

STATED MEETING, MARCH 7, 1848.

Hon. LUTHER BRADISH, First Vice President, in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Chair read letters from Messrs. Prosper M. Wetmore and John Jay, stating that the nature of their engagements were such that they could not devote the necessary attention to the duties of the Executive Committee, and resigning their places as members of that committee. The Chair thereupon announced the appointment of the following gentlemen to fill the vacancies in said committee, viz :—

MARSHALL S. BIDWELL,
GEORGE H. MOORE.

[The Executive Committee, at a subsequent meeting, (the former Chairman, Mr. Wetmore, having resigned,) organized by the appointment of GEORGE GIBBS, as Chairman, and GEORGE H. MOORE, as Secretary of said Committee.]

The Domestic Corresponding Secretary, Mr. BEEKMAN, read letters received by him since the last meeting, from

Charles James Lanman, Esq., of Norwich, Conn.; E. George Squier, of Cincinnati, O.; and George Tappen, of Kingston, N. Y.—the latter in reference to certain translations of Dutch documents in his possession, which he offered to the Society in December, 1847; the consideration of which was at that time referred to the Executive Committee.

The Librarian, Mr. Moore, announced the additions to the Library since the last monthly meeting, as follows:

BY DONATION.

Revolutions de Paris, dédiées a la Nation et au District des Petits-Augustins. Nos. 14 to 66—10 Oct. 1789 to 16 Oct. 1790, bound in three volumes.—*Gift of Lansingh Thurber, Utica, N. Y.*

Niles, Nathaniel, Jr. and John D. Russ. Medical Statistics; or a comparative view of the Mortality in New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Boston, for a series of years. New York, 1827. —*Gift of Dr. H. Niles, Chargé des Affaires to Sardinia.*

Niles, Nathaniel. Letter to a Friend, who received his theological education under the instruction of Dr. Emmons, concerning the Doctrine which teaches that impenitent sinners have natural power to make themselves new hearts. Windsor Vt., 1809.—*Gift of Dr. H. Niles.*

Hall, J. Prescott. Discourse delivered before the New England Society, of New York, December 22, 1847. New York, 1848. —*Gift of the Author.*

Castanis, Christophoros Plato. Essay on the Ancient and Modern Greek Languages. Andover, 1844.—*Gift of the Author.*

Allen, Thaddeus. An Inquiry into the Views, Services, Principles, and Influences of the Leading Men in the origination of our Union, and in the formation and early administration of our present government. No. 1, Vol. II. Boston, 1848.—*Gift of the Author.*

Letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, communicating the Report of the Superintendent of the Coast Survey, for 1847.

Report by Hon. Mr. Breese, from the Committee on Public Lands, with a bill granting to the State of Illinois a donation of land for completing the Railroad from Cairo to Chicago and Galena.

Annual Report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the state of the Finances for 1847.

Annual Report of the Executive Committee of the State Normal School, Jan. 1848.

Annual Report of the Trustees of the State Library, Jan. 1848. 2 copies.—*Gift of Prosper M. Wetmore.*

Report of the Board of Trustees of the Massachusetts General Hospital, presented to the Corporation, at their annual meeting, Jan. 26, 1848.—*Gift of Nathaniel I. Bowditch, Esq., Boston.*

Report from the Secretary of War, covering Report from the Topographical Bureau, on the Commerce and Navigation of the Lakes; the Report of the Superintendent of the Coast Survey, &c.; also, Report of the Secretary of the Treasury, on the Finances, and sundry Speeches.—*Gift of the Hon. D. S. Dickinson, of the Senate.*

Annual Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, for 1847-8. —*Gift of the Indian Department.*

Schoolcraft, Henry R. The Indian and his Wigwam, or Characteristics of the Red Race of America. New York, 1848.—*Gift of Rev. R. W. Griswold.*

Green, Thomas J. Journal of the Texian Expedition against Mier; subsequent imprisonment of the author; his sufferings and final escape from the Castle of Perote. With reflections upon the present political and probable future relations of Texas, Mexico, and the United States.—*Gift of Rev. R. W. Griswold.*

Dalrymple, David. Annals of Scotland, from the accession of Malcolm III. surnamed Canmore, to the accession of Robert I. 4to. Edinburgh, 1776.—*Gift of Gen. James Tallmadge.*

The Home Missionary, and American Pastor's Journal, from 1828 to 1846. 18 vols. 8vo. (bound in nine.)—*Gift of the American Home Missionary Society.*

Reports of the American Home Missionary Society, from 1827 to 1846, twenty years, bound in 3 vols. 8vo.—*Gift of the Society.*

Brieslak, Scipion. Institutions Geologiques, traduites du manuscrit Italien en Française, par P. J. L. Campmas. Trois volumes avec un Atlas de 56 Planches. 3 vols. 8vo. and 1 4to. Milan, 1818.—*Gift of A. Vattemare.*

Correspondence relating to the Boundary between the British Possessions in North America, and the United States of America, under the Treaty of 1783. Presented to Parliament, in 1840. Parts I. & II. Fol.—*Gift of Isaac Spencer.*

Comstock, Andrew. Treatise on Phonology; comprising a perfect Alphabet of the English Language, a system of vocal gymnastics, exercises in Orthography, Reading and Declamation, and Pitman's Phonetic Short-Hand. No. I. 12mo. Phila. 1846.—*Gift of David P. Holton.*

The New Testament. (Printed in phonetic characters.) 8vo. Phil. 1848.—*Gift of David P. Holton.*

Sketches of Trials in Ireland, for High Treason, &c., including the Speeches of Mr. Curran, at length, accompanied by certain papers illustrating the History and present state of that country. 8vo. Baltimore, 1804.—*Gift of the Librarian.*

Hay, Edward. History of the Insurrection of the County of Wexford, A. D., 1798; including an account of transactions preceding that event, with an Appendix. Embellished with a Map of the County of Wexford. 8vo. Dublin, 1803.—*Gift of the Librarian.*

Oddy, J. Jepson. European Commerce, showing new and secure channels of trade with the continent of Europe; detailing the Produce, Manufactures and Commerce of Russia, Prussia, Sweden, Denmark, and Germany; as well as the trade of the rivers Elbe, Weser, and Ems; with a general view of the Trade, Navigation, Produce and Manufactures of Great Britain and Ireland. 2 vols. 8vo. Phila. 1807.—*Gift of the Librarian.*

Junius Unmasked: or Lord George Sackville proved to be Junius. With an Appendix, showing that the author of the Letters of Junius was also the author of the "History of the Reign of George III." and author of "the North Briton," addressed to Mr. Wilkes. 12mo. Boston, 1828.—*Gift of the Librarian.*

General Regulations for the Navy and Marine Corps of the United States. 8vo. Washington, 1841.—*Gift of the Librarian.*

Laws of the United States, in relation to the Navy and Marine Corps, to the close of the second session of the 26th Congress. Compiled and arranged by Benjamin Homans. 8vo. Washington, 1841.—*Gift of the Librarian.*

A Plan of the City of New York, from an actual survey made by James Lyne, in 1728. Published by William Bradford. (Fac simile of the original in the possession of G. B. Smith.)—*Gift of Francis H. Saltus.*

Copy of the Armorial Bearings of the Platt family, of Huntington, L. I.—*Gift of Mrs. Elizabeth P. Platt Rogers.*

Meteorological Record, kept at the New York Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, for 1846 and 1847.—*Gift of Prof. O. W. Morris.*

The Librarian also stated that he had received from Benjamin Perley Poore, Esq. through the Hon. Mr. Folsom, a Manuscript, containing specimens of the volumes deposited in the Archives of Massachusetts, by the Historical Agent, sent by that Commonwealth to France, (Mr. Poore,) who had previously been employed by Mr. Brodhead in copying papers for the State of New York. The researches directed by Mr. Brodhead, brought to light the papers illustrating the early history of New England, copies of which the Commonwealth of Massachusetts have thus secured. They are executed in a style of unsurpassed neatness and accuracy.

Mr. Gibbs, Chairman of the Executive Committee, submitted a report on the nominations referred to that committee, recommending the following candidates for election, who were thereupon elected, viz.:—

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

Rev. George Benton,	Fayetteville, N. C.
Rev. William H. Campbell,	Albany, N. Y.
Hon. James T. Buckingham,	Boston, Mass.
" Zadock Pratt,	Prattsville, Greene Co., N. Y.

RESIDENT MEMBERS.

Stephen I. Sedgwick,	Jasper W. Gilbert,
M. M. Van Beuren,	D. W. Townsend,
Philip Paulding,	John M. Mason,

Rev. Peter J. Van Pelt, D. D.

Mr. Gibbs, from the same committee, announced that a new volume of collections was now in press, and would be published at as early a day as practicable; and

thereupon offered the following resolution, which was adopted:—

Resolved, That Messrs. Bartlett and Welford be requested to offer a copy of the new volume of Collections for purchase to each member of the Society.

Mr. Gibbs further reported, that Mr. William Van Norden had offered to continue the publication of the Bulletin, on his own risk, omitting the papers read, and to furnish the Society with fifty copies gratis, provided the Society would furnish him with the manuscript of the proceedings. This Mr. Moore, the Librarian, had offered to do. Whereupon he offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That Mr. Van Norden be permitted to continue the publication of the Bulletin, on his own account, as above proposed, either quarterly or monthly, and that Mr. Moore be requested to aid him as above.

Mr. Chauncey, from the committee appointed to raise funds to erect a fire-proof building, &c., reported the following resolution adopted in committee:—

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Society to make the subscriptions binding only when the sum of ($25,000) twenty-five thousand dollars be raised, and that all subscriptions amounting to ($500) five hundred dollars, and over, be payable at the option of the subscribers in sums not exceeding twenty per cent. in every sixty days, to commence from the time when the same became binding; and, on the question being taken, the motion was adopted and ordered to be reported at the next meeting.

On motion, *resolved*, that the recommendations in said resolution be adopted.

Mr. Fowler, from the committee on auditing the accounts of the late Treasurer, reported that they were proceeding in their duties, but were not yet ready to report.

Professor O. W. Morris, to whom was referred the fossil, so called, from Lake Superior, presented to the So-

ciety at its January meeting, 1847, stated that it had been examined by Professor Agassiz, and by Professor Hall, of Albany, and he read a letter from the latter gentleman, in which he says :—

"It is evidently a mass produced by concretionary action. There were originally two cavities in the interior, which are now filled with crystallized quartz. This quartz has crystallized in a radiated form, filling the entire cavity in one instance, and this is the body regarded as a fossil. The external marks which are peculiar are the impressions of the mammillary or concretionary surfaces of the surrounding geode. You will observe the same mammillary surface on the outside of the larger piece of the geode. The radiated structure is only due to crystallization, and not to organization. The quartz which is broken through in the centre, presents externally the same markings, and is essentially the same as the more perfect specimen. The surrounding mass is siliceous in character, approaching to chalcedony, and presents no appearance of having been organic. Still I have seen quartz geodes in limestone, which have evidently taken the place of corals, without preserving any organic markings.

"From the situation in which this specimen occurred, I think there is in the outset presumptive evidence that it is not organic."

Mr. Gibbs offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Foreign Corresponding Secretary be requested to address a letter to the American Governor of the city of Mexico, requesting him to institute researches under the direction of some officer of engineers, provided the same can be done compatibly with the public interest, in the great square of the city of Mexico, and other places, whereon ancient places of Mexican worship were situated, with a view to the discovery of ancient remains, and that such as may be found, and which are deemed of

sufficient value, be sent to the United States, to be preserved in some suitable institution.

Mr. Joseph Blunt then rose and said:

Mr. President:—Since our last monthly meeting, one of the oldest and most distinguished members of this Society has finished his earthly career. John Quincy Adams, the scholar and statesman, who, in the discharge of the duty which this Society, some years since, called upon him to do, performed a most eminent public service in giving one of the most elegant and profound treatises upon the government under which we live—has, in the immediate discharge of his public duties, passed to his last account. He has left a void, which we cannot expect any one in this generation again to fill. He was indeed a most remarkable man; one who from his earliest youth, by the incessant and diligent application of all his faculties, eminently qualified himself for public service. He began his studies as a law student under Chief Justice Parsons, in the town of which I was a native. I remember hearing from some of the old inhabitants, of the incessant application of Mr. Adams; how that he used to commence his studies at four o'clock in the morning, both in summer and winter, and allowing but little departure from his daily routine for the purposes of pleasure and amusement. By that incessant and arduous toil, he qualified himself at an early age for the discharge of the public duties, which in his later career we have seen him so ably fulfil. In 1793, at a time when public questions of great importance and novel in their character arose, in relation to the neutrality of this country in the dispute that raged between France and other European powers, it became the duty of President Washington to determine upon the course most adequate to be pursued, so far as the neutrality of the United States was concerned. The public feeling was against the course which the President deemed it his duty to pursue. The question was a new one, and in the minds of most public men, it was

thought that this country was bound to a certain extent to adopt the cause of France, and the grateful feelings of the American people led them even at the peril of the country to take sides with our ancient ally. Washington thought otherwise. It was necessary, however, that he should find some support from public opinion and from the press. Then it was, that Mr. Adams, a young man, unknown except as the son of the great champion of our national independence, by a series of able essays, not only directed the public attention to himself, but contributed in a most eminent degree to establish a public opinion that was eminently favorable to the course of Washington, and calculated to sustain him in that trying emergency. He was shortly after selected to represent our country abroad. After that diplomatic career, though even then a young man, he was elected to the Senate of the State of Massachusetts, and from that to the Senate of the United States. After that he was appointed to the bench of the Supreme Court; then sent as minister to Russia, and subsequently was one of the commissioners to form a treaty between this country and England, which closed the war of 1812. Again he was sent to represent this country in England; and afterward he was called to act as Secretary of State; and finally to fill the highest office in the gift of the people—the Chief Magistracy of the United States. Since that time his career is familiar to us all. It became my good fortune to a certain extent to acquire his confidence and friendship while Secretary of State. I had an opportunity from that time to know intimately the motives that governed him in the discharge of his public duties. I never knew a man whose motives were so characterized by a sense of his responsibility to his Creator and to mankind. He never sought to discharge a public duty without having reference, not only to the opinion of posterity, but also to his own personal responsibility to his God. He was eminently conscientious. It was that faculty which he always appealed to, that

made him in after times maintain the cause of right, even though he stood alone. If there ever was a man who was governed by the strictest conscientious feelings, it was JOHN QUINCY ADAMS. Fortunately he lived sufficiently long for history to vindicate his reputation. Even before death had put his seal upon him, his cotemporaries did him justice. The spontaneous burst of feeling that broke out during his first visit at the west, from all classes that thronged to see that venerable man, was in some sense the foretaste of what history would award to him. And since his decease; the spontaneous tribute of respect from all parts of the republic, show that he has outlived those feelings that arrayed men against him during the party conflicts while he was at the head of the nation. I remember at the time when he was President of the United States, it was thought by his friends and those who sustained him in that high office, that he did not sufficiently use the powers and patronage which were at its disposal to sustain his administration in power. I represented to him that in this city and elsewhere, men dependent upon *his* will for public office, used all their power against his administration, and endeavored to prevent his re-election. His reply was noble, and became the man. "I have determined," said he, "while President of the United States, at least to try the experiment whether a republic can govern itself—whether my countrymen can, without reference to the influence exerted by official patronage, determine whether the measures of the administration are worthy of support or not, and if I cannot govern by these principles, I am willing to return to Quincy." The popular estimation of his character since then has confirmed the wisdom of his decision. Though perhaps the immediate generation might regret that he had acted thus, yet succeeding generations will be able hereafter to point to him as a man who disdained to use the powers of office to mislead or affect the judgment of his countrymen any further than the wisdom and purity

of his measures could do it. I will not detain the Society by any further remarks, but ask leave to submit the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That in the death of John Quincy Adams, the people of the United States have lost a devoted patriot, an enlightened statesman, an unwearied public servant, and a most intrepid advocate of human freedom.

Resolved, That the New York Historical Society unite in the general regret for the departure of this venerable man from his career of public service, full of honors and years, and with his last thoughts intent on the diffusion of learning and the intellectual improvement of his species.

Resolved, That it is a subject of no small consolation, that his departure was postponed, until the merits of his administration were vindicated by history, and his countrymen bore testimony with unexampled unanimity to the purity of his motives and the wisdom of his measures.

Resolved, That the members of this Society will testify their respect and sympathy for this national bereavement, by attending the funeral procession to-morrow with the customary badges of mourning.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted by the Corresponding Secretary to the family of the illustrious deceased.

Hon. Marshall S. Bidwell said: Mr. President—These resolutions, I am sure, will not require to be recommended by any eloquent appeal to this Society. The spontaneous feelings of all its members will at once approve of such a mark of respect to the distinguished person to whom they refer. I think it is peculiarly due from this Society, not merely as citizens of the republic over which he once presided, and in which he served in so many important offices, but also collectively as a Society, for the reason, that the whole life of Mr. Adams, more perhaps than that of any other man that ever lived among us, is identified with the history of this country from its

commencement to the present time. There is another reason, Sir, why it becomes *us* to unite in this expression of sympathy. He was not only an eminent magistrate and public officer, serving with great fidelity and usefulness, but he always found time, in the midst of the high and constant duties of his various offices, to cultivate his mind, so that by general consent he is allowed to have been one of the greatest scholars this country has ever produced. It is, therefore, I think, proper on the part of a literary society like this, to unite with their fellow citizens in the public testimony of respect for the memory of that great and good man. I will not take up any further time, (impatient as we all are for the entertainment we expect this evening,) but to make a single observation. It is well known that John Quincy Adams never courted public applause. He had as little of the conciliatory in his disposition as could well be found in any person equally conscientious. It was therefore gratifying that notwithstanding the controversies and asperities of society, he attained those high offices of trust, without resorting to those acts by which they are too often sought. He has gone down to the grave amidst the regret, the lamentation and the respect of his countrymen, affording an honorable and sure proof that all those arts of demagogues are entirely useless—that if public men are willing to fulfil their duty conscientiously, however others may differ from them in opinion, they will be sustained and honored, and die lamented.

The resolutions were then unanimously adopted.

Professor McVickar rose and remarked, that though the resolutions were no longer under discussion, yet in as much as he had entered too late to take part in them and as the deep interest of the event gave value to even the slightest particulars bearing upon it, he would venture so far to trespass on a rule of order as again to refer to them, with a view to add what had fallen under his own personal observation touching the last hours of the lamented statesman.

It cannot but be interesting here at least, to know that the last topic of Mr. Adams's discourse, immediately preceding his fatal attack, in a conversation continued up to the moment of the House organizing, was the improvement of the literary and academic institutions of our country, in which conversation our own Society, by implication at least, bore its share. Up to this time, no special evidence of disease appeared. Though his voice was feeble, and his manner more than usual, perhaps, subdued, yet his thoughts were clear, his recollection good, his judgment sound, and his words firm as ever, and the parting was as of those who are soon to meet again—but within twenty-five minutes he sunk in his seat; the once brilliant discursive mind was paralyzed for ever, so far at least as earth is concerned—thus leaving this as the last subject of Mr. Adams's *voluntary* thoughts, the last effort it may be said of his *free* intellect, for all else of speech that intervened was but the routine of official duty or casual words bearing on it. This fact, however trivial, has at least its interest *here*, 'and for myself,' added Professor McVickar, 'I esteem it a high privilege to have thus received, as it were, the dying words of a mind not only so highly gifted, but of one so wise, and good, and brave, the last lingering relic, I may say, of a generation greater than our own, because simpler and braver and truer—more of heart united with head.' The Professor went on to say that he need not here add what was already widely known and might readily be conceived, the shock and confusion caused in the House by such an event. Mr. Adams was at once raised and borne into the Rotunda for freer air, and there partially recovered speech. Among his imperfect utterances were words like these: 'It is the end of earth,'—deep teaching to come as parting words from the lips of 'that old man eloquent'—who had seen so much of earth. It was a short but speaking lesson, and needed not argument to enforce it. The chill air there blowing in, being regard-

ed unfavorable to his case, Mr. Adams was at once removed to the Speaker's room adjoining, where the ensuing evening the narrator of these events was admitted, and had the melancholy privilege of standing over his dying bed. It was a scene not to be forgotten. One solitary lamp gave its feeble light to the room, and showed stretched, unconscious, on a common cot, hastily arranged for the purpose, the form once so instinct with animation, now fast sinking in death. The frail bed shook beneath his deep, heavy breathing; the bloody pillow showed that he had been 'cupped' without relief, and that medical skill had proved vain. Nothing was doing, nothing was to be done, and in mute and helpless silence, physicians as well as friends stood around the bed, awaiting what was evident could not be long delayed—his last deep breath. A common sofa with a tumbled pillow was near him, marking either his first resting place in the room, or else the casual repose of some worn out attendant. It was a scene of deep and solemn interest, but not of melancholy, for what had life more to offer to such a man than such a death? to be found at his post, to be taken, watching, to be called in his seat, where duty had placed him—to fall fighting the battle he had ever fought, bravely and truly,—'Hoc erat in votis.' This had long been his wish, and more repeatedly expressed of late, as the time evidently drew nigh. Over that bed a silent mental prayer was all that could be offered, and it *was* so offered, that the removal of the good and brave old man might be blessed to others as well as himself, and lead many to meditate on the startling lesson it taught to busy restless man—'what shadows we are and what shadows we pursue.' 'And here,' Professor McVickar added, 'it was a pleasing remembrance that the last preceding words that had past between them, had been but the afternoon before, and under circumstances still more reverential, even in God's House of Prayer—the Church of St. John's, under the charge of the Rev. Mr.

Pyne, which church Mr. Adams had made at least his outward choice—held a pew in it, and regularly attended, whenever the religious services in the Capitol left him free. It was a brief conversation, leaving, however, a deep impression, though more from manner than words, that religion had a firm hold on his heart, and that he had truly placed his hopes where alone old age can find its strength, or the thoughtful mind at any time *repose.* 'Thus,' concluded the speaker, 'was I privileged, incidentally to witness, within the last twenty-four hours of Mr. Adams's closing life, as exhibited in word and act, what may well be termed the three living elements of man's true greatness. First, an *Intellect* so trained to the love and pursuit of knowledge as to hold on to the last in all its interests on all that concerned it. Secondly, a *Spirit* so trained to patient endurance, so firm and so resolute, that age could not enfeeble, nor opposition intimidate, nor the infirmity of years bribe it from its post of benevolent, useful duty—and lastly, as the ground work of all, a *Heart* so trained to religion and reverence of God, as to bow humbly to its sanctions, and out of the last dregs of physical strength, never to fail to direct even tottering steps to that House of God, where strength comes in answer to prayer.

Such was the man, Mr. President, whose removal we now commemórate, not in sadness, but in filial reverence, and add his name to the long list of worthies already inscribed in the annals of our country. The resolutions of the New York Historical Society, passed by us this night, go to do *our share* towards erecting such memorial.

Mr. Joseph C. Hart rose and said—It appeared to him peculiarly appropriate that this Society should now take their principal measures to testify all the respect possible to the memory of Mr. Adams, while his body was yet with us, while his fame had lost none of its freshness, and while his character was well understood by his cotemporaries. He considered that the embalming of

the names of such men as Mr. Adams, was too often, nay, nearly always, left to posterity, when, in truth, it could be better done by cotemporaries, thereby leaving nothing to be guessed at, or advanced with uncertainty; and when prejudices may be combatted and accounted for, and the real greatness of a man's character be embodied. Mr. Hart did not believe the present age incapable of estimating the character of Mr. Adams, nor was he willing that it should be left to the decision of posterity alone to pass upon its value, and to record its judgment upon it. It was a remark of a French writer, he believed of Montesquieu, that the fame of the ancients became magnified by distance; and if this remark be true, we might leave the task to posterity, worthily to magnify the fame of Mr. Adams, when his name shall have the benefit of an appropriate antiquity. But Mr. Hart would prefer that we should set a present value upon the character of the man, and send it to posterity with his name; showing those who may come after us that we were capable of estimating his worth, and that our immediate familiarity with him, did not unfit us from passing a correct judgment upon his great merits and unequalled acquirements. The question had been many a time proposed to Mr. Hart, both at home and in foreign countries, "*who are your great men?*" and without hesitation, he had invariably assigned the first place in the first rank to Mr. Adams; believing that however he might mistake or overrate others, he would not be disputed in thus ranking that wondrous man: and Mr. Hart had done this so often, even while he had opposed him in the political strifes of the day, that he was sure he would not now be accused of insincerity, nor a desire to lavish indiscriminate praise on the present occasion. Mr. Hart had listened with profound attention to what had fallen from his fellow members, and he was constrained to notice what seemed to him an important though unintentional omission in the proposed solemnities, regarding the illustrious deceased, which he would,

with the leave of the Society, supply by offering the following resolution, namely:—

Resolved, That it be referred to the Executive Committee to take into consideration the propriety of procuring an Eulogy to be pronounced, before the Historical Society, upon the life and character of the Honorable JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, now deceased, late an Honorary Member thereof; and, should said Committee be advised that it is proper, that they take measures to carry the same into effect accordingly, at an early day.

The question being taken, the resolution was adopted.

On motion of Mr. James B. Murray, the members of the Society were requested to join in the funeral ceremonies in honor of Mr. Adams, to take place to-morrow, and to take such place in the procession as may be assigned them by the committee of the Common Council.

Mr. George Copway, a Chief of the Ojibway Nation, was then introduced to the Society, and read a paper, entitled "The Progress of the Wars between the Massaugas, of Canada West, and the Iroquois, of New York."

On its conclusion, Mr. J. R. Bartlett moved the following resolution, which was adopted:—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Society be tendered to Mr. Copway, for his interesting paper just read, and that he be requested to furnish a copy for the archives of the Society.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

STATED MEETING, APRIL 4, 1848.

The Rev. THOMAS DE WITT, D. D., Second Vice President, in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

In the absence of the Domestic Corresponding Secretary, Col. WARNER read the report from that officer of the correspondence during the month of March.

The Librarian, Mr. MOORE, announced the additions to the Library and Cabinet since the last meeting, as follows:

BY DONATION.

Hawkins, Walter. Observations on the Use of the Sling, as a Warlike Weapon, among the ancients. 4to. London, 1847.

Regulations of the St. Katharine Docks, London. 8vo. 1842.

Pfeil, Adolph R. The Anglo-French Intervention in the River Plate: considered especially with reference to the negotiations of 1847, under the conduct of the Right Hon. Lord Howden. 8vo. London, 1847.

Morgan, Augustus De. Statement in answer to an assertion made by Sir William Hamilton, Bart. 8vo. London, 1847.

Way, Albert. Catalogue of Antiquities, Coins, Pictures, and Miscellaneous Curiosities, in the possession of the Society of Antiquaries of London, 1847. 8vo. London.

A Letter to Joseph Hume, Esq., M. P., upon the late Debate on Portugal, in the British House of Commons. By an Anglo-Lusitanian. 8vo. London, 1847.

Hartshorn, C. H. The Ancient Charters and Municipal Archives of Northampton. 12mo. London.—*Gift of Hon. George Bancroft.*

Report of the Secretary of War, communicating a Report from the Topographical Bureau, in relation to the commerce, navigation, and means of defence of the Western Lakes and Rivers. 1847. —*Gift of Hon. F. A. Tallmadge.*

Report on the California Claims, (by Mr. Cass, of the Senate.) 1848. —*Gift of Hon. Daniel S. Dickinson.*

Wickes, Thomas. Historical Discourse, commemorative of the organization of the Congregational Church, in Marietta, (Ohio,) delivered at the first semi-centennial celebration, Dec. 6, 1846. 8vo. Marietta, 1847.—*Gift of Miss D. L. Dix.*

Channing, Walter. My Own Times, or 'Tis Fifty Years Since. 8vo. Boston, 1845.—*Gift of George Gibbs.*

National Academy of Design. Catalogue of the 22d Annual Exhibition. 8vo. 1847.—*Gift of Prosper M. Wetmore.*

Twenty-Ninth Annual Report and Documents of the New York Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb. 8vo. 1847. —*Gift of the same.*

Reed, William B. Address before the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 28 January, 1848, on the occasion of opening the Hall in the Athenæum. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1848.—*Gift of Penn. Historical Society.*

Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society, held at Philadelphia, for promoting useful knowledge. No. 39. 8vo. Phil. 1847.—*Gift of the Society.*

Eager, Samuel W. An outline History of Orange County, with an enumeration of the names of its towns, villages, rivers, creeks, lakes, ponds, mountains, hills, and other known localities, and their etymologies, or historical reasons therefor; together with local traditions and short biographical sketches of early settlers, &c. 8vo. Newburgh, 1847.—*Gift of the Author.*

Natural History of New York. Part II. Botany. By John Torrey. Vol. 2. 4to. Plates. Albany, 1843.

——— ——— Part V. Agriculture. By E. Emmons. Vol. I. 4to. Plates. Albany, 1846.—*Gift of the State of N. York.*

Whittier, John G. Supernaturalism of New England. 12mo. New York, 1846.—*Gift of Prosper M. Wetmore.*

Francis, John W. Anniversary Discourse before the New York Academy of Medicine, November 10, 1847. 8vo. New York, 1847.—*Gift of the Same.*

The American Journal of Homœopathy, edited by S. R. Kirby, M. D. and R. A. Snow, M. D. Vol. I. 8vo. New York, 1847. —*Gift of the Editors.*

Report of Professor Alex. D. Bache, Superintendent of the Coast Survey, showing the progress of that work for the year ending October, 1847.—*Gift of Lieut. J. M. Gilliss.*

The Virginia Historical Register and Literary Advertiser, for Jan. 1848. 8vo. Richmond.—*Gift of the Editor.*

Dana, Richard H. Jr. Facts, arguments, and documents relative to the Ether Discovery. 8vo. Boston, 1848.—*Gift of the Author.*

Army Port-Folio. No. 1. By Capt. D. P. Whiting, 7th Infantry U. S. A.—*Gift of William Endicott.*

Macdonald, James M. A Sketch of the History of the Presbyterian Church, in Jamaica, L. I. 12mo. New York, 1847.—*Gift of Henry Onderdonk, Jr.*

A file of the New York Courier and Enquirer. Volume 37, for 1847.—*Gift of Thomas D. Lowther.*

The N. E. Historical and Genealogical Register, and Antiquarian Journal, Nos. 1 and 2, Vol. II.—*Gift of S. G. Drake.*

Annual Report of the Comptroller of the City of New York, of the Receipts and Expenditures of the Corporation of the City of New York, including the transactions of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, for the year 1847.—*Gift of the Comptroller, John Ewen.*

Second and Third Reports of the Prison Association of New York, for the years 1845 and 1846.—*Gift of Prosper M. Wetmore.*

A brass Blunderbuss, used in the Siege of Louisbourgh, Cape Breton, 1745.—*Gift of Henry R. Schoolcraft.*

Specimens of Continental Money, and of the Paper Issues of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island, in 1776 and 1777. —*Gift of Richard Warren.*

An Indian Pestle, ploughed up from the soil, in the neighborhood of Boston.—*Gift of William Endicott.*

BY PURCHASE.

Laws of the State of Delaware. Adams's edition, 1700–1797. 2 vols. 8vo. New Castle, 1797.

——— ——— ——— ———. 1798–1826, 4 vols. 8vo. Wilmington and Dover.

Sanford, Ezekiel. History of the United States before the Revolution; with some account of the Aborigines. 8vo. Phil. 1819.

Memoirs of William Sampson. Second edition, revised and corrected by the Author. 8vo. Leesburg, Va. 1817.

Thompson, Zadock. History of Vermont, natural, civil, and statistical, in three parts, with a new Map of the State, and 200 Engravings. 8vo. Burlington, 1842.

Soame, John, M. D. An Historical Account of the Plague at Marseilles, [1720]. Second edition revised; to which is added a particular and distinct description of the city of Marseilles. 8vo. London, 1722.

Bradley, Richard, F. R. S. The Plague at Marseilles considered, &c. Also, some observations taken from an original Manuscript of a graduate Physician, who resided in London during the whole of the late Plague, Anno 1665. 8vo. London, 1721.

Neal, Richard, M. D. A short Discourse concerning Pestilential Contagion, and the Methods to be used to prevent it. 4th edition, 8vo. London, 1720.

Blackmore, Sir Richard. A Discourse upon the Plague, with a preparatory account of Malignant Fevers. 8vo. London, 1721.

Seasonable Considerations on the indecent and dangerous custom of Burying in Churches and Church-Yards, with remarkable observations, historical and philosophical, proving that the custom is not only contrary to the practice of the ancients, but fatal, in case of infection. 8vo. London, 1721.

Vertot, Abbe. The History of the Revolutions in Sweden, occasioned by a change of Religion, and alteration of the Government in that Kingdom. Translated into English, by J. Mitchel, M. D. 3d edition, with an accurate Map of Sweden. 8vo. London, 1711.

Lloyd, William, M. D. Letters from the West Indies, during a visit in the autumn of 1836, and the spring of 1837. 12mo. London, 1837.

Barrington, George. The History of New South Wales, including Botany Bay, Port Jackson, Pamaratta, Sydney, and all its de-

pendencies, from the original discovery of the Island; with the customs and manners of the Natives; and an account of the English Colony from its foundation to the present time. 8vo. London, 1802.

Biographie Universelle, ancienne et moderne. Supplement. Tome LXXXI. (Continuing the series in the Library.)

Mr. GIBBS, Chairman of the Executive Committee, made a report on the nominations which had been referred to that committee, recommending the following candidates, who were thereupon elected, viz:—

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

LANSINGH THURBER,	Utica, N. Y.
Rev. SAMUEL SEWALL,	Burlington, Mass.
GEORGE COPWAY,	An Ojibway Chief.

RESIDENT MEMBERS.

ISAAC SPENCER,	JOHN OOTHOUT,
THOMAS D. LOWTHER,	ROBERT SCHELL,
HEZEKIAH KING,	JOHN C. T. SMIDT,
LANCASTER D. BURLING,	WILLIAM G. WOOD,
RUSSELL C. ROOT,	HUNN C. BEACH,
JOHN P. TREADWELL,	HENRY A. OAKLEY,
CHARLES F. BRAGG,	STILLMAN S. CLAPP,

PHINEAS FREEMAN.

Mr. Gibbs, from the same committee, proposed the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a special committee be appointed to procure a suitable notice of the deaths of the Hon. AMBROSE SPENCER and the Hon. HENRY WHEATON, to be taken at the next regular meeting of the Society.

The following gentlemen were appointed the committee under said resolution, viz:

MARSHALL S. BIDWELL,
JAMES W. BEEKMAN,
GEORGE GIBBS.

At the request of the presiding officer, (Dr. De Witt,) Gen. Prosper M. Wetmore took the chair for the remainder of the evening.

Various nominations were then made to the Society, and severally referred to the Executive Committee.

A communication was read from the Hon. S. R. Betts, in behalf of the Bar of New York, inviting the Society to unite with them in attending at the Tabernacle, on Tuesday evening, the 11th inst., to hear an address by the Hon. John Duer, on the character of the late Chancellor Kent.

On motion of Mr. Gibbs, the Society resolved to accept the invitation.

A proposition to amend Art. V. of the By-Laws, relative to the admission fees and annual dues of members, was submitted by Gen. Prosper M. Wetmore, which proposition, according to the 23d article of the By-Laws, lies over to the next regular meeting for consideration.

Mr. Gibbs read a letter from Mr. Wm. H. C. Hosmer, of Avon, a corresponding member, containing some interesting particulars of his researches into the Indian antiquities of Western New York, particularly as to the scene of De Nonville's Expedition.

On motion of Mr. Gibbs,

Resolved, that said communication be referred to the Domestic Corresponding Secretary.

The Rev. Dr. De Witt then read the following paper:

On the Sources of some of the Early Settlements in the State of New York.

Two centuries and a half have not quite elapsed since the first settlement was made in what is now "the United States of America." In that short space of time, a nation of more than twenty millions, with a growth continually accelerated, has arisen, exercising self-government under institutions securing well balanced civil and religious liberty; and she now stands forth a beacon light to

the nations of the earth. Surprising to the view is the giant strength which has been gained in the freshness of her youth, connected with her rapid onward growth. In this respect she stands in contrast with the nations of the old world which bear the accumulation of many centuries, furnishing in some cases the symptoms of decay, and showing elements of foreboding, almost everywhere, to the stability, and permanence of exising institutions. Even now there is an upheaving and shaking among the nations, and the volcanic materials which have been gathering, are bursting forth with unrestrained power, and thrones are falling prostrate before the popular will. May He who "rides upon the whirlwind, and directs the storm," give an issue in which, amidst overturnings, the way will be opened for the diffusion and establishment of that which is "righteousness and peace," and which "cannot be moved." The aspect of the times, and the state of the nations strongly tend to excite feelings of fervent gratitude and humble complacence, in the recognition of our goodly heritage, in the large place into which Providence has brought us. The countries in the Southern part of this continent, earlier occupied by Europeans, with more glittering prospects of glory, and enjoying a climate as genial, and a soil as fertile as ours, show a marked contrast as to the general diffusion of knowledge, the prevalence of social peace and order, moral culture, domestic purity and comfort, and the enjoyment of civil and religious liberty. The question naturally arises, to what causes may we attribute this marked contrast? Whence has resulted the formation of our national character, and the establishment, and successful operation of our civil institutions? These institutions, though the fears of the patriot have at times been awakened, have stood the test of time, and seem to have gained firm strength amid every rising storm, well calculated to excite the sanguine hope that they will be permanent, and prove a "tree of life whose leaves shall be for the healing of the nations."

In the indulgence of this hope we should never lose sight of the lessons which our history unfolds, and always remember that the same influences which in the past have produced results so important and precious, are the same which are needed to preserve and increase them in the future. The diligent observer, in tracing the history of our country, will never be at a loss to discern the spirit and principles of the early settlers of our country, and their descendants, struggling against arbitrary power, and amid the ferment of conflicting elements, producing that leaven which has leavened the lump. No section of our country can make exclusive, or towering claims over others. Our ancestors migrated from different parts of Europe, holding to different forms of the profession of the Christian faith, but we find among them all, more or less, the spirit of liberty arising in its lofty aspirations, but in a calm, enlightened, and well disiplined exercise. We see from different quarters this spirit steadily nurtured, and leading to self-sacrifice, and devotedness in common counsels and efforts. Our country's history should be familiar to the study of our youth, and the lessons derived from it, should prove a guide and incentive to the discharge of the duties which they owe to their God, their country, and themselves. These remarks may seem uncalled for in view of the specific object of this paper. Perhaps, rather prompted by the absorbing intelligence from abroad, which has for some time interested the whole community, indulgence will be extended.

The design of this paper is to give a view of the sources whence some of the early settlements in what is now the State of New York were derived, as it may throw some little light upon the character of the materials forming them, and which may be traced in connection with the onward colonial history. The first permanent *agricultural* settlement by the Hollanders in New Netherlands, may be safely stated to commence with 1624. Among the very first settlers were a considerable number of Walloons,

most of whom located on the Long Island shore, calling the name of the place *Wallebogt*, (or the Walloonbend,) alluding to the bend in the river there. The *Walloons* residing in Holland were derived from the Southern Provinces of the Netherlands, or Belgium; bordering on France, and speaking the French language, they were termed *Gallois*, which was changed in Low Dutch into *Waalsche*, and in English into *Walloon*. The derivation given by some, that the term *Wallebogt* was derived from the river *Waal*, the main branch of the Rhine, in Holland, is incorrect. During the severe, thrilling, and most oppressive struggle with the colossal imperial, and papal powers, the principles of the reformation became considerably extended in the Southern as well as the Northern Netherlands, and the blood of thousands was shed in testimony to them. Under the severity of the persecutions, many fled to England, in the times of Edward the Sixth and Queen Elizabeth.

Belgium, during the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, was the great mart for trade and manufactures in Europe, and reached a prosperity from which she afterwards greatly declined. These refugees being among the leading artisans, and settling at London, Norwich, &c., carried with them their arts, and gave the first impetus to the manufactures of Great Britain. At the same time there were refugees, induced by like causes, from the Northern Provinces of Holland. When in 1579 the seven Northern Provinces united in the league of Utrecht, and declared their independence, and when the Spanish, and Papal powers crushed the Reformation in Belgium, thousands of Walloons and Flemings settled in Holland. This gave rise to the Walloon Churches in Holland, which furnish so fair a page in ecclesiastical history, and which have produced so many eminent men. The Walloons are to be distinguished from the Huguenot Refugees, who came directly from France during the persecutions in the times of the Reformation, and after the revocation of the edict of

Nantes, although assimilated to them, and blending with them in Church Communion. I lately received a volume recently written by a distinguished Christian civilian at Amsterdam, entitled "*The History of the French Refugees in Holland*," giving an interesting account of the character and labors of the most eminent among them. It is the great praise of Holland, that she early gave an illustration of the principles of free government in a fairer and more striking form than had been before exhibited. Her federal system was a fair type of our own federal union, and the spirit she displayed was one of tolerance and liberality far more than was displayed elsewhere. The free exercise of worship and civil immunities were granted to Roman Catholics, who had shortly before labored to exterminate them. The Jews, who before had found no resting place for their feet in Europe, had a sure and abiding place furnished to them, and the persecuted through religious and other causes from different countries, found an asylum among them. Circumstances connected with colonial dependence, slowness of growth, and embarrassing circumstances from around, prevented the full development of those principles here, which had taken root, and flourished in the Father Land. Yet, who that reads the short and imperfect annals of the colony of New Netherlands, does not find evidence, in the very difficulties that occurred, of the operation of these principles; and as he views the character displayed, the part acted, and the influence exerted by their descendants, he will feel that such fruit must have sprung from a good root. Many of the old Long Island families still residing in the vicinity of the *Wallebogt* on Long Island, testify their Walloon or French origin by their names, such as *Merserole*, *Duryee*, *Luqueer*, *Debevois*, *Conselyea*, *&c.*, in some of which the orthography is slightly changed. Doubtless there were some Walloons scattered among the different settlements in subsequent emigrations from Holland, as we find many names either of Walloon or Huguenot origin, among the

early settlers, and in some instances where the lineage can be traced, they are found to be of Walloon origin.

As being in a degree assimilated, a second source of early settlement, to some small extent, may be noticed, viz: the WALDENSES, exiled from the valley of Piedmont. The history of these Christians, the precursors of the Reformation, so long and severely persecuted during the middle ag's, is well known, standing prominent on the page of history. We have evidence that during the administration of Governor Stuyvesant, a considerable number of these oppressed and exiled Waldenses became settlers in the New Netherlands. About the year 1650, and subsequently, the reigning Duke of Savoy renewed the war of persecution with increased severity against these French Waldenses in Piedmont, threatening the loss of life as well as property, as the result of refusing an open renunciation of their faith. Thus they were either crushed at home, or forced to wander forth as exiles in their poverty. Such was the extent of their sufferings, that the sympathy of the reformed churches in Europe led to collections and efforts in their behalf. In 1655 and 1656, the Reformed Church of Holland collected two hundred thousand guilders, or eighty thousand dollars for their relief. It was at this time, that Oliver Cromwell interposed his powerful influence with the courts of Europe for their protection, and that Milton wrote one of his most beautiful sonnets on the oppressed Waldenses. In 1656, the branch of the West India Company, called the Chamber of Amsterdam, to whom the care of Manhattan Island and its vicinity had been assigned, transferred that charge to the municipal authority of the City of Amsterdam, who undertook to foster its interests and promote colonization, in hope of a profitable remuneration. *Wagenaer*, in the fifth volume of his "History of the City of Amsterdam," states that in that very year 1656 a large number of *Vaudois*, or French Waldenses from Piedmont, took refuge in Holland, and that three

hundred of them were, at their desire, furnished with means, and forwarded to the Colony of New Netherlands. Some others followed afterwards. It is probable that a number of these settled on Staten Island, and some remained in the city. There will be found extracts from the records of the Council of the City of Amsterdam, relating to these Waldenses, among the papers brought by Mr. Brodhead from Holland. In the record of Church members belonging to the Reformed Dutch Church of the City of New York, a number of French names entered immediately subsequent to 1656, to some of whom a note is appended "dismissed to the French Church." The organization of the French Church took place many years afterwards. At this time, Samuel Drisius was one of the ministers of the Church at New Amsterdam. He had been called in 1651 as a colleague to the Rev. Mr. Megapolensis. He was selected on account of his knowledge of the English and French, as well as Dutch languages, (having been settled as minister of the Reformed Dutch Church in London,) that he might be useful to the English or French visiting or resident there. I have in my hands, letters from Mr. Drisius, dated in 1659 and 1661, addressed to the Classis of Amsterdam, referring to the French settlers on Staten Island. In the letter of 1661, he speaks of his crossing the bay once a month to spend a Sabbath, and preach to the French Vaudois, expressly terming them Vaudois. Mr. Disosway, in his article on the Huguenots, in the Methodist Quarterly Review, speaks of the Huguenot settlers on Staten Island, and dates the settlement no further back than 1675. Doubtless there were at subsequent periods settlements made by Huguenots on Staten Island, but the above seems to give definite proof, that there were a number of French families there as early as 1659, and these were Vaudois, or French Waldenses from the vallies of Piedmont.

The *main source*, however, of the early settlements, was the HOLLANDERS by birth and descent. These of course

constituted the very great majority in the process of colonial growth under the Dutch Government. The trading and military posts, &c., attracted, as in all similar cases, a class which does not give a fair view of the standard of their country's character. But enough, and more than enough, of historical reminiscences are found to the worth and standing of the leading settlers of New Amsterdam, and the gradually advancing agricultural settlements in its vicinity, to their simplicity, steadiness and honesty, their reverent regard for religion, and their practical good sense. The first agricultural settlement in the colonie of Rensselaerwyck, was made in 1630, and the colonists increased from year to year. The peculiarity of the feudal tenure and jurisdiction attached to the grant of the colony to the patroon, formed a sort of *imperium in imperio*, and was the source of some embarrassment in the government of New Netherlands. A large proportion of the emigrants first brought out under the auspices of the Patroon, were doubtless from the humble laboring classes, who settled as quiet agriculturalists. After the arrival of Governor Stuyvesant, the increase was more rapid, and the colonists that arrived, of a more substantial character. The first settlements gradually and slowly expanded in their immediate neighborhood, and new agricultural settlements were made, from 1650 to 1660, at Kingston, Catskill, Kinderhook, Schenectady, &c. The surrender of the colony to the British, took place in 1664. Provision was made by the West India Company, and also in the articles of privileges of the Patroons, for sending with the colonists a school master and a minister, selected and commissioned by the Classis of Amsterdam. We find that careful attention was paid to this when forming their infant settlements. Therefore, the claim sometimes made in behalf of the Puritans, as if it were peculiar and distinguishing to them that they brought with them the church and the school house, must be denied, so far as it is exclusive, and merit must be equally divided by them

with our Dutch and Huguenot forefathers. In every Dutch family there was found a large brazen-clasped bible, either originally brought from the Fatherland by the emigrants, and handed down as an heir loom in the family, or else specially ordered from Holland.

Another source, from which our earlier settlements were derived, was the HUGUENOTS of France, and it is one to which we must ever advert with pleasure. Every one who has read the history of their struggles and oppressions in their own land, marked the noble traits of character which they cherished and displayed, observed the high respect in which they were held, and the happy influence they exercised in the various countries where in their exile and dispersion they found their refuge and abode, will hold their memory in special honor. Doubtless there were many French Huguenots, either of those domesticated in Holland or coming directly from France, who arrived and settled in the colony under the Dutch Government. On passing over the records of the Reformed Dutch Church of the City of New York, I perceive, at a very early period, such names as *Deforeest*, *De la Montagne*, *Vermilye*, *&c.*, which in their families have always been claimed as of direct Huguenot origin; and then onward, such names as *Gabry*, *Bayard*, *Mienville*, *Cousseau*, *Leroy*, *Goelet*, *&c. &c.*, some of whom sustained important posts of trust and honor in the colony. The reference to this source, however, has respect to two interesting Huguenot settlements after the colony passed under the jurisdiction of Great Britain. One was previous to the revocation of the edict of Nantes, on the banks of the Wallkill in Ulster County, by Huguenots from the south of France, the other, after the revocation of the edict of Nantes, at New Rochelle, in Westchester County, by Huguenots from the west of France.

Sometime between the years 1665 and 1670, a number of the Reformed Christians or Huguenots, left the south of France, resolved to seek another abode for the unmo-

lested enjoyment of their religious faith and worship. They were men of honorable standing and considerable cultivation, and it is said that one was allied to a titled family. They first took their residence in the Palatinate, in Germany, of which Heidelberg is the capital, and where the Reformed branch of the Protestant Church prevailed. They remained there a year or two, and then, probably with their views directed to the New World, went to Holland, and remained there for a season, enjoying intimate and pleasant intercourse with their reformed brethren. They migrated to America, as far as can now be ascertained, between 1671 and 1675, probably at different times, and remained a short season in New York. I find in our baptismal records in New York, some entries which indicate their presence here in that time. They went up the North River, and located temporarily at Wiltwyk, or Esopus, now Kingston, where they remained about two years in friendly communion with the residents there, cultivating the free use of the Low Dutch language, some knowledge of which they had gained while in Holland. An interesting incident in Providence, needless to detail here, led them to select their spot for permanent settlement. In 1677, a patent was obtained for a considerable tract of land in the name of twelve of their number. Among these are *Abraham Hasbroucq*, *Louis Dubois*, *Louis Bevier*, *Christian Deyo*, *Simon Lefever*, *Hugo Freer*, *Antoine Crispell*, *&c.*, which names are all preserved in the same field, and extensively branched forth around. In remembrance of their pleasant places of temporary abode in Europe, after they left their own land, they named the place *New Paltz*, after the Palatinate in Germany, always called by Germans and Low Dutch, de *Paltz*, and the fine river on the margin of which they settled, *Wallkill*, after the River Waal, the main branch of the Rhine in Holland. It has been remarked that the old buildings in the place, some of which still remain, were, like the old farm houses at New Ro-

chelle, in the form of the old farm houses in France. They were men of religious faith, feelings, and habits. I have seen their church records. The first entries are in the French language, which soon gave way to the Low Dutch. There are still to be found some of the old French family bibles, of the large Geneva edition, brought over by the first emigrants.

With these extended remarks on the Huguenots of New Paltz, I feel myself prevented from saying much on the Huguenot settlement at New Rochelle, so full of interest, but it is more prominent in the public mind, as its character and history have been more frequently alluded to. It was after the revocation of the edict of Nantes, and the capture and sacking of Rochelle, endeared to them as their fortress in past seasons of trial, that a large number of refugees came to America and settled in different parts. A company from Rochelle and its neighborhood, selected a place in Westchester County, and named it after their beloved Rochelle. The character of these Huguenots may be appreciated as we trace their names in their descendants, as Jay, Pintard, Carow, Boudinot, Guion, &c. As an evidence of the simplicity of their faith and the strength of their religious feelings, I cannot but recur to a circumstance which I heard stated by the late venerable John Pintard, one of their descendants. When they settled at New Rochelle, they went to New York, more than twenty miles distant, to join their countrymen there in the worship of the sanctuary. After the toils of the week and of the day, they united towards Saturday evening in forming their march, most frequently on foot, and reached New York towards midnight, singing cheerfully by the way *Clement Marot's Psalms.* After the services of the Sabbath, they broke their rest at midnight, took up their return march, again singing Clement Marot's psalms, and in the morning resumed the toilsome labors of the new settlement. I have been impressed, in adverting to the history of our Reformed Dutch

Church in America, with the affinity and sympathy which existed with our Dutch ancestors and the Huguenot emigrants here. It has been already stated, that as early as 1651, a minister was called with the express condition that he should be able to preach in the French language also. I find that immediately after the influx of Huguenot emigrants, after the revocation of the edict of Nantes, the offer of the use of the church for worship on a stated portion of the Sabbath was made by the Consistory of the Dutch Church; that Peter Daillè, formerly Huguenot minister at Boston, ministered to them for a time, statedly; and that not only was the sympathy of our Dutch Churches expressed in this manner, but by seasonable and effectual aid in promoting their temporal welfare. After some time, a distinct French Protestant Church was organized, and a small building erected in Marketfield Street, which gave way to the well remembered French Church in Pine Street, built in 1704. Few portions of the recollections of our early settlements in the United States, are more interesting than those of the Huguenots, some at an early period in Massachusetts, those in New York, and those planted in Virginia and South Carolina, in the close of the seventeenth, and the beginning of the eighteenth centuries. Will not some descendant of the Huguenots gather up the fragments of documents and traditions, so that nothing be lost? Fairly and brightly are the names of many of them inscribed on the pages of our history, as those of *Jay*, *Laurens*, *Boudinot*, *Bowdoin*, *Huger*, *Marion*, *Legare*, *&c.*

At the transfer of the Colony, in 1664, the towns in what is now Suffolk County, settled at an early period by the Puritans which had been under the jurisdiction of the Colony of New Haven, were attached to the Colony of New York. Some settlements by the English, both from New England and directly from England, had been formed in Queens and Westchester Counties during the Dutch Colonial Government. These experienced a lib-

eral policy from the Dutch government in civil matters, and their infant churches received sympathy and aid from their Dutch neighbors. At the surrender, only a few of the Dutch residents returned to Holland, and with these solitary exceptions, they remained quiet, and peaceable subjects, in the enjoyment of the rights and privileges secured to them by the liberal terms of the surrender. The emigration from Holland was afterwards quite small, and very occasional. There were indeed emigrants, from Holland, who extended the settlements along the Hackensack and Passaic Rivers in New Jersey, and also some who joined themselves to those on Long Island, and along the North River. But the enlargement and extension in the Dutch settlements arose mainly from the natural increase, and these settlements spread gradually along the range of the margin of the North River, along the Rosendale and Wallkill, in Ulster County, and along the valley of the Mohawk, in the latter part of the seventeenth, and the beginning of the eighteenth century.

After the surrender of the colony to Great Britain, a strong tide, and new kind of immigration took place. The new civil and military organization was followed by numerous Englishmen with their families, seeking their residence here, first in the principal towns, and vicinity, and afterwards penetrating further into the country. This source of increase became more and more enlarged. Gradually, after a series of years, by intermarriage between leading families, the Dutch, Huguenot, and British, became considerably interlinked. The Dutch continued for a long time to preponderate, not only in numbers, but in wealth and influence, and it is believed, continued to preponderate over any other *single* source until the revolutionary war. In 1710, the immigration of the German Palatines commenced, and soon after settlements were made by them in Livingston Manor, the northern parts of Ulster and Dutchess Counties, the upper part of the valley of the Mohawk, and the valley of the Schoharie. The peacea-

ble disciples of George Fox, first found at Flushing and vicinity, penetrated into the interior of Westchester and Dutchess. The Scotch and Irish Presbyterians made settlements in Orange County, in what is now Washington County, and Cherry Valley. The increase from the neighboring New England, during the century following the capitulation, was small, mainly confined to the eastern part, bordering upon it. This very brief and imperfect view of the progress of the settlements after the surrender in 1664, is given to show how long continued was the preponderance of the descendants of the early settlers in numbers, character, and influence. When we carefully read the annals of our state, and trace her legislative history, we shall find among the steady and able advocates of constitutional liberty, and resisters of arbitrary enactions, the descendants of the early settlers, prominent among them the sons of the Huguenots, and the Dutch. An array of names in civil, military, and professional life, of earlier and later generations, might be exhibited in testimony of their tried worth and sterling character.

It may be felt that some of the preceding remarks show the partiality which a fond regard to ancestry is apt to inspire. Conscious of exposure to such influence, an impartial estimate has been aimed at. Born and brought up in Ulster County, I am on my paternal side descended from one of the early settlers of Kingston, in 1655, whose farm has been lineally handed down in the family to the present, and on my mother's side, (who was a Hasbrouck,) from one of the first Huguenot settlers at New Paltz. This brought me into wide contact, in my earlier day, with neighborhoods and families. The impressions of those days are often vividly recalled, and reflection has strengthened the conviction of the generally pervading excellence of their traits of character. Prominent was simplicity and integrity. Their *yea* was *yea*, and their *nay*, *nay*. The Hollanders have been viewed as inclined to obstinacy. In some circumstances, and with certain tendencies, the charge may be applicable

but in the classes with which I was conversant, the character was found unfolded in a sincerity of conviction, and integrity of purpose not yielding to change of circumstances, or the solicitations of interest and policy, and blended with the best charities of the heart. There was found in them, what those who looked at a distance could not apprehend or appreciate, a strength of love of kindred, and of neighborly kindness. Often did I witness the pains, and frequency with which kindred, though in distant grades of relationship, took to visit each other, and the cordiality with which these visits were improved and enjoyed. Frequent were the little neighborhood re-unions, and fireside converse, which tended to clasp the links, and brighten the chain of friendship, far better than the crowded, fashionable displays of the present day, in which domestic feeling is readily dissipated.

Diedrich Knickerbocker's fanciful History of New York, by a caricatured view of the traits and manners of the early Dutch, has given rise to prevailing impressions, which do injustice to them. The well known author, who has shed honor upon his country, and who will ever be honored by his countrymen, would be the last to call in question the substantial worth and valuable traits of the early Dutch settlers. His work, designed as a piece of humor, of which it is a fine specimen, and having gained wide currency for entertainment, has extensively lodged convictions more difficult to eradicate than to produce, so that it will not be easy to remove the lines which the pencil of humor has drawn, and exhibit the true and faithful lineaments of the portrait. There can be nowhere found so just a view of the manners and habits of the olden time in the Dutch settlements as in the "Memoirs of an American Lady," by Mrs. Grant, of Laggan. I would also refer to a paper read before this Society by one of our most valuable members, *Charles F. Hoffman, Esq.*, and published, giving, it is believed, a very faithful sketch of the traits and manners of the descendants of the early settlers of our state in its colonial or

ante-revolutionary period. I deem it proper before I close, to allude to the "History of New Netherland," by Dr. O'Callaghan, one volume of which has been published, and the second is in the course of publication. While this service had been neglected by the sons of the Hollanders, the author, who is a son of the Emerald Isle, coming among us, directed his attention to our colonial history, and soon had his interest deeply enlisted. He made himself acquainted with the Low Dutch language, explored the voluminous documents in the office of the Secretary of State, searched the papers in the Rensselaerwyck Mansion House, and industriously drew information from other sources. At this time the valuable documents obtained by Mr. Brodhead, from the Archives at the Hague, were deposited in the Secretary's office. He was thus enabled to procure, arrange, and condense an amount of materials beyond what was anticipated. So far as the work is already before the public, there is every evidence that he has performed it carefully and faithfully, and is entitled to the patronage of our citizens. While this work gives the filling up of the current of events in the public history, it is to be regretted that so little has been handed down in the way of narrative, private manuscripts, &c., to lead us into the interior of social and domestic life. Yet that little, combined with traditionary remembrances, and the reminiscences of some, now in the autumn of life, will prompt the application to our Dutch and Huguenot ancestors, as indicative of their domestic spirit and habits, and their reverence for religion, the motto *pro aris et focis.*

The memory of the great and good in all parts of our country, and descended through different channels of ancestry, should be deemed our common property, and no exclusiveness of claims should be allowed. None can more highly estimate than myself the memory of the Puritans for their sterling traits of character, and the important influence they exerted on the promotion of constitutional liberty and of public and private virtue. None can

more cordially appreciate the worth of William Penn and the Friends, who have practically exemplified that "wisdom" (in the spirit and arts of peace) "is better than weapons of war." Similar views might be taken of other fields in the Union. But *New York* is our *own field.* In its present important and commanding position, and in the consideration of its interesting annals, both while a colony and a state, it presents a *most important* field. It is the province of the New York Historical Society, carefully to guard, and diligently to cultivate it. It should be our constant aim and labor to collect, preserve, and exhibit the memorial of all her sons in the whole course of our history, who have contributed to the honor and welfare of our state, and our country, from whatever source of ancestry they may have been derived, and to collect with industry from all quarters, the materials to fill up faithfully, and fully, the succession of her historical annals. Above all, the society should never forget to place in bright relief, and to cherish *the memory of the early settlers of our State.*

On the conclusion of the paper, Professor Taylor Lewis offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, that the thanks of the Society be presented to the Rev. Dr. De Witt, for the able and interesting paper just read, and that a copy be requested for the archives of the Society.

Prof. G. D. Abbott offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, that a committee be appointed, to take such measures as may be deemed expedient, to collect and preserve in the archives of the Society, any information, documents, or memorials, that may be obtained, to illustrate the Huguenotic element in the early settlement and history of our country.

The following gentlemen were appointed the committee under said resolution, viz: Rev. Thomas De Witt, Prof. G. D. Abbott, Joseph C. Hart.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

STATED MEETING, MAY 2, 1848.

The Hon. Marshall S. Bidwell in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Domestic Corresponding Secretary read sundry letters received by him since the last meeting. He also reported, that by direction of the Executive Committee, he had informed Mr. George Tappen, of Kingston, under date of the 20th ult., that the MSS. offered by him for sale to the Society, are held subject to his order. He further stated that he had addressed to Mr. W. H. C. Hosmer, of Avon, N. Y., a reply to his communication to the Society, of March 23, 1848, on the subject of the four Indian villages in the valley of the Genessee, destroyed by De Nonville in 1688, and describing certain relics recently disinterred in the neighborhood of Avon.

The Librarian announced the additions to the Library since the last meeting, as follows :—

BY DONATION.

The New Hampshire Annual Register and United States Calendar, for 1841, 1842, 1845, 1846, 1847 and 1848. The two first edited by Asa Fowler, and those subsequent by G. Parker Lyon. —*Gift of G. Parker Lyon, Esq. Concord, N. H.*

Doyle's Catalogue, for 1848, Part I.—*Gift of John Doyle.*

New York Code of Procedure. First Report of the Commissioners on Practice and Pleadings.—*Gift of E. C. Benedict, Esq.*

Seward, William H. Oration on the Death of John Quincy Adams, delivered before the Legislature of the State of New York, at Albany, on the 6th of April, 1848. 8vo. Albany, 1848.—*Gift of E. C. Benedict, Esq.*

Lee, Charles A. Catalogue of the Medicinal Plants, indigenous and exotic, growing in the State of New York, with a brief account of their composition and medical properties. 8vo. New York, 1848.—*Gift of Henry Kernot.*

Report on the Alabama, Florida and Georgia Railroad, by T. Butler King, from the Committee on Naval Affairs. 1848.—*Gift of Hon. D. S. Dickinson.*

Report of Lieut. Howison, U. S. Navy, on the coast, harbors, &c., of Oregon, the result of an examination in 1846.—*Gift of Hon. F. A. Tallmadge.*

Report from the Committee on Naval Affairs, H. R., on a proposed series of astronomical observations on the planet Venus, during the period of her retrograde motion, for the more accurate determination of the solar parallax. With the Correspondence of Professor Gerling, of Germany, and distinguished men of science in this country, on the subject.—*Gift of Hon. George P. Marsh.*

The New Hampshire Repository; devoted to Education, Literature and Religion. Conducted by the Faculty of Gilmanton Theological Seminary. Vols. I. and II. 8vo. Gilmanton, 1845–1847. [This work, after the publication of six numbers, was merged in the N. E. Hist. and Genealogical Register, published at Boston.]—*Gift of Rev. William Cogswell, D. D.*

Transactions of the American Art Union, for the year 1847. 8vo. New York, 1848.—*Gift of Prosper M. Wetmore.*

Annual Report of the Executive Committee of the New York Historical Society, for the year 1847. 25 copies.—*Gift of Prosper M. Wetmore.*

Brisbane, W. H. An Eulogium on the Life and Character of the late Hon. Thomas Morris. 8vo. Cincinnati, 1845.—*Gift of the Librarian.*

Mann, Horace. An Oration delivered before the authorities of the city of Boston, July 4, 1842. 8vo. Boston, 1842.

Ewing, M. C. Description of the Water Power at the Great Falls of the Potomac, with a Map. 8vo. 1845.

The Massachusetts Register and United States Calendar, for 1828, 1832, and 1836.—*Gift of William A. Thomas.*

Hopkins, Samuel. An Inquiry concerning the Future State of those who die in their Sins; wherein the Dictates of Scripture and Reason upon this important subject are carefully considered; and whether Endless Punishment be consistent with Divine Justice, Wisdom, and Goodness: in which, also, objections are stated and answered. 12mo. Newport, 1783.

Squire, Francis. An Answer to some late Papers, entitled the Independent Whig; so far as they relate to the Church of England, as by law established. 12mo. New York, 1753.

Hitchcock, Gad. Natural Religion aided by Revelation and perfected by Christianity. A Discourse delivered in the Chapel of the University at Cambridge, Mass., Sept. 1, 1779. (Dudleian Lecture.) 8vo. Boston, 1779.

Wetmore, J. The Englishman directed in the choice of his Religion: with a Prefatory Address to the Gentlemen of America. 8vo. Boston, 1748.

Piers, Henry. Sermon preached (in part) before the Right Worshipful the Dean of the Arches, and the Reverend the Clergy of the Deanery of Shoreham, assembled in Visitation at Seven-Oaks, in Kent, 21st May, 1742. 5th edit. 8vo. New York, 1766.

West, Samuel. Sermon preached before the Honorable Council and the Honorable House of Representatives of the Colony of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, May 29, 1776. 8vo. Boston, 1776.

A View of the Controversy between Great Britain and her Colonies; including a mode of determining their present disputes finally and effectually, and preventing all future contentions. In a Letter to the Author of a Full Vindication of the Measures of the Congress from the Calumnies of their Enemies. By *A. W.* Farmer. 8vo. New York, 1774.

Wigglesworth, Edward. The Doctrine of Reprobation briefly considered: being the substance of some lectures in Harvard College. 8vo. Boston, 1763.

Mayhew, Jonathan. Popish Idolatry; A Discourse delivered in the Chapel of Harvard College, in Cambridge, New England, May 8, 1765. (Dudleian Lecture.) 8vo. Boston, 1765.

An authentic and particular account of the life of Francis Burdett Personel, written by himself. (Executed at New York, Sept.

10, 1773, for the murder of Robert White.) 12mo. New York, 1773.

An account of the Life and Transactions of William Gadesby, from the age of 17 to 28, when he received sentence of death, 21st Dec, 1790. Written by himself in prison. 12mo. Dublin, 1791.

Croswell, William. Letter to the Bishop of Massachusetts, occasioned by his late letter to the Clergy. 12mo. Boston, 1845.

The Political Progress of Britain, or an impartial History of Abuses in the Government of the British Empire in Europe, Asia, and America, from the Revolution of 1688 to the present time: the whole tending to prove the ruinous consequences of the popular system of taxation, war, and conquest. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1794.

Copy of the Stamp Act. Printed by Gaine, New York, 1765.

Emott, James. Speech in the House of Representatives, 12th Jan., 1813, on the bill to raise an additional military force. 8vo. New York, 1813.

Gleason, Luther. An impartial Narrative of the trial of, before the Congregational Convention of Long Island, at Brookhaven, April 13, 1808; to which is added a brief account of said Luther Gleason, from the time of his coming into this part of the church. 12mo. Sag Harbor, 1808.

Leaming, Jeremiah. A defence of the Episcopal Government of the Church, containing Remarks on two late noted Sermons on Presbyterian Ordination. 8vo. New York, 1766.

Candid Remarks on Dr. Witherspoon's Address to the Inhabitants of Jamaica, and the other West India Islands, &c. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1772.

Duffie, Cornelius R. Discourse delivered before the New York Protestant Episcopal Missionary Society, Jan. 15, 1826. 8vo. New York, 1826.

Tyng, Stephen H. The Importance of uniting Manual Labor with Intellectual Attainments, in a preparation for the Ministry. A Discourse preached at the request of the Episcopal Education Society of Pennsylvania. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1830.

Act of Incorporation of the Village of Brooklyn, in the County of Kings. 1816.

An Essay on the Fall of Angels and Men; with Remarks on Dr. Edwards' Notion of the Freedom of the Will; also a blow at the Root of Universalism. 8vo. Boston, 1796.

White, William. Address delivered before the Trustees, Faculty, and Students of the General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States. 8vo. New York, 1824.

Dialogue between an Episcopalian and a Presbyterian, on the subject of the late meeting of some Episcopalians at Mechanic Hall in the City of New York. 8vo. New York, 1813.

Muhlenberg, Wm. Augustus. The Rebuke of the Lord. A Sermon, preached in the Chapel of the Institute at Flushing, L. I., on the Sunday after the Great Fire in New York, 16th and 17th December, 1835. 8vo. Jamaica, 1835.

Wilson, James R. The subjection of Kings and Nations to Messiah. A Sermon preached 6th Dec., 1819, in the Reformed Presbyterian Church of New York. 8vo. New York, 1820.

Noah, Mordecai M. Discourse delivered at the Consecration of the Synagogue of the Jews, in the City of New York, 10th Nisan, 5578, corresponding with the 17th April, 1818. 8vo. New York, 1818.

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The Dissenting Gentleman's Answer to the Rev. Mr. White's Three Letters; in which a Separation from the Establishment

is fully justified; the charge of Schism is refuted and retorted; and the Church of England and the Church of Jesus Christ are impartially compared, and found to be constitutions of quite a different nature. 4th edition. 8vo. New York, 1748.

Fessenden, Thomas Green. Democracy Unveiled, or Tyranny stripped of the garb of Patriotism. 2 vols. 12mo. 3d edition. New York, 1806.

Mr. Madison's War. A dispassionate inquiry into the reasons alleged by Mr. Madison for declaring an offensive and ruinous war against Great Britain, together with some suggestions as to a peaceable and constitutional mode of averting that dreadful calamity. By a New England Farmer. 8vo. New York, 1812.—*The Preceding pamphlets, &c., (48 in number,) the Gift of Henry Onderdonk, Jr., of Jamaica, L. I.*

The Radii, a newspaper, published at Fort Plain, N. Y., and edited by L. S. Backus, a Deaf Mute. Volumes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, nearly complete.—*Gift of O. W. Morris.*

Maury, M. F. Wind and Current Chart of the North Atlantic, compiled from materials in the Bureau of Ordnance and Hydrography. Washington. Sheets Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8.—*Gift of the Author.*

Form of Abstract Log, for the use of American Navigators. Prepared by Lieut. M. F. Maury, U. S. N.—*Gift of the Author.*

Copy of the Circular of the American Legation at London, 27 March, 1848, announcing the death of John Quincy Adams.—*Gift of John Romeyn Brodhead..*

Napoleon and the Marshals of the empire. Complete in 2 vols., with 16 steel portraits in military costume. 12mo. Philadelphia, 1848.—*Gift of Rev. Rufus W. Griswold.*

Calhoun, George A. An Historical Address before the Church of Christ, in North Coventry, Conn., at their first Centennial Celebration, October 9th, 1845. 8vo. Hartford, 1846.

Hawes, Joel. Historical sketches of the First Church in Hartford. A Centennial Discourse delivered in the First Church, June 26, 1836. 8vo. Hartford, 1836.

Phelps, Noah A. History of the Copper Mines and Newgate Prison, at Granby, Conn. Also, of the Captivity of Daniel Hayes, of Granby, by the Indians, in 1707. 8vo. Hartford, 1845.

Hawes, Joel. An Address, delivered at the request of the citizens of Hartford, on the 9th of November, 1835; the close of the

second Century from the first settlement of the City. 8vo. Hartford, 1835.

Andros Thomas. The Old Jersey Captive, or a Narrative of his Captivity, &c. 18mo. Boston, 1833.

Bacon, Leonard. Discourse on the early Constitutional History of Connecticut, delivered before the Conn. Hist. Soc., May 17th, 1843. 8vo. Hartford, 1843.

Phelps, Richard H. Newgate of Connecticut: A History of the Prison, its Insurrection, Massacre, &c. Imprisonment of the Tories in the Revolution, &c. 3d edition. 8vo. Hartford, 1844.—*The preceding* (7 *in number,*) *the Gift of George Brinley, Jr., of Hartford, Conn.*

Roys, Auren. Brief History of the Town of Norfolk, (Ct.) from 1738 to 1844, &c. 8vo. New York, 1847.—*Gift of George Brinley, Jr., Hartford, Conn.*

Lithographic Print. Republique Francaise. Les Membres du Government Provisoire, Portraite dessines d'apres nature, A l'Hotel de Ville, 1848.—*Gift of Wm. Endicott.*

MS. An Aboriginal map of the present Territory of New York, Drawn on vellum. By Lansingh Thurber. Utica, 1848.—*Gift of Lansingh Thurber, of Utica.*

BY PURCHASE.

Phillippo, James M. Jamaica; its past and present state. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1843.

Cist, Charles. Cincinnati in 1841: its Early Annals and Future Prospects. 12mo. Cincinnati, 1841.

Howe, Henry. Memoirs of the most eminent American Mechanics; also, Lives of distinguished European Mechanics, together with a collection of anecdotes, descriptions, &c., relating to the mechanic arts. With 50 engravings. 12mo. New York, 1847.

Knapp, Samuel L. Female Biography; containing notices of distinguished women in different nations and ages. 12mo. Philadelphia, 1846.

Shallus, Francis. Chronological Tables for every day in the year, compiled from the most authentic documents.

Brackenridge, H. M. History of the late war between the United States and Great Britain, containing a minute account of the various Military and Naval Operations. Illustrated with plates. 3d edition. 12mo. Baltimore, 1817.

Mr. Benedict, from the executive committee, made a report on the nominations referred to that committee, recommending the following candidates, who were thereupon elected:

CORRESPONDING MEMBER.

JOHN W. KNEVELS, Fishkill Landing.

RESIDENT MEMBERS.

Rev. MILTON BADGER, D. D.
WILLIAM MILES,
CYRUS LAWTON.

Mr. J. P. Crosby, from the committee appointed to audit the accounts of the late Treasurer, for the years 1846 and 1847, made a report, with the vouchers and papers which had been submitted to the committee; and,

On motion of Mr. Benedict, the said report and accompanying papers were referred to the executive committee.

Sundry nominations were made of new members, which were referred to the executive committee.

Mr. Wetmore called up a proposition, submitted by him at the last meeting of the Society, for the amendment of the fifth article of the By-Laws. The object of the proposed change being explained by the mover, the amendment was adopted. The fifth article of the By-Laws now reads as follows:

"ANNUAL FEES AND DUES.

"V. Each resident member shall pay, on admission, an initiation fee of five dollars, and five dollars annually as dues; or, in lieu thereof, a life membership fee of fifty dollars, as a commutation for all the regular dues and fees: provided that in all cases of election after the summer recess, the dues to be charged to members so elected, for the remainder of the year, shall be for six months only, or two dollars and fifty cents."

James H. Raymond, Esq., then read before the Society, the following paper :—

On proposed Amendments to the Constitution of the United States, with original unpublished Letters from distinguished Statesmen.

On the twelfth day of April, 1808, the Hon. James Hillhouse, a Senator in Congress from the State of Connecticut, submitted to the Senate, a resolution proposing certain amendments to the Federal Constitution, in regard to the mode of choosing Members of Congress, and the President of the United States.

There was much in the measure proposed that was novel and peculiar, and it excited considerable observation at the time, and has been the subject of a great variety of opinions among many of the most distinguished men of our country. Having been entrusted with the possession of several original letters on the subject of the proposed amendment of the Constitution, addressed by some of the most prominent public men of their time to the mover of the resolution, to which I shall call your attention, I have thought that it might not be unprofitable to present the subject to the notice of this Society.

I purpose to ask your attention to the proposed amendments to the Constitution, embraced in the resolution offered by Mr. Hillhouse in the Senate of the United States, and to give a summary sketch of the views and reasons, which he submitted to that body in support of his proposition.

In connection with this, I intend to exhibit and read original and unpublished letters upon this subject, of the late President Madison, of the late Chief Justice Marshall, of the late Hon. Wm. H. Crawford, once a distinguished member of the Cabinet at Washington, and afterwards a prominent candidate for the Presidency, and of our late distinguished and lamented fellow-citizen, Chancellor Kent.

A matter of sufficient importance to call forth elaborate and critical observations from those whose names I have mentioned, cannot be unworthy of some degree of attention from us. In remarking upon this subject, I do not wish to be understood as offering any opinions of my own, as to the wisdom or practicability of attempting to amend the Constitution according to the plan under consideration. That ground has been pre-occupied by those whose views and sentiments it does not become me to call in question, and whose opinions do not need my support. And it is my only duty to present fairly before this Society the materials which have been placed at my disposal.

I will first read the resolution and the proposed amendments, as they were presented to the Senate.

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, (two-thirds of both Houses concurring,) That the following articles be proposed to the Legislatures of the several States, as amendments to the Constitution of the United States; all or any of which articles, when ratified by three-fourths of the said Legislatures, to be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the said Constitution, viz:

ARTICLES in addition to, and amendment of, the CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, proposed by Congress, and ratified by the Legislatures of the several States, pursuant to the fifth article of the original Constitution.

ARTICLE THE FIRST.

After the third day of March, one thousand eight hundred and thirteen, the House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every year by the people of the several States: their electors in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the State Legislature; and their term

of service shall expire on the first Tuesday of April in each year.

Article the Second.

After the third day of March, one thousand eight hundred and thirteen, the Senators of the United States shall be chosen for three years, and their term of service shall expire on the first Tuesday of April.

Immediately after they shall be assembled, in consequence of the first election, they shall be divided as equally as may be, into three classes. The seats of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the first year; of the second class, at the expiration of the second year; and of the third class, at the expiration of the third year: so that one third may be chosen every year. Vacancies to be filled as already provided.

Article the Third.

On the third day of March, one thousand eight hundred and thirteen, the President of the United States shall be appointed, and shall hold his office until the expiration of the first Tuesday of April, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen. And on the first Tuesday of April, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, and on the first Tuesday of April, in each succeeding year, the President shall be appointed, to hold his office during the term of one year. The mode of appointment shall be as follows:

In presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, each Senator belonging to the class whose term of service will first expire, and constitutionally eligible to the office of President, of which the House of Representatives shall be the sole judges, and shall decide without debate, shall, beginning with the first on the alphabet, and in their alphabetical order, draw a ball out of a box containing the same number of uniform balls as there shall be Senators present and eligible, one of which balls shall be colored, the others white. The Senator who

shall draw the colored ball, shall be President. A Committee of the House of Representatives, to consist of a member from each State, to be appointed in such manner as the House shall direct, shall place the balls in the box, shall shake the same so as to intermix them, and shall superintend the drawing thereof. In case of the removal of the President from office, or of his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the powers and duties thereof, if Congress be then in session, or if not, as soon as they shall be in session, the President shall, in the manner before mentioned, be appointed for the residue of the term. And until the disability be removed, or a President be appointed, the Speaker of the Senate shall act as President. And Congress may, by law, provide for the case of removal by death, resignation, or inability of the President, and vacancy in the office, or inability of the Speaker of the Senate; and such officer shall act accordingly until the disability of the President be removed, or another be appointed.

The seat of a Senator who shall be appointed as President, shall thereby be vacated.

Article the Fourth.

After the third day of March, one thousand eight hundred and thirteen, the compensation of the President shall not exceed fifteen thousand dollars a year.

Article the Fifth.

After the third day of March, one thousand eight hundred and thirteen, the office of Vice-President shall cease. And the Senate, on the same day in each year, when the President shall be annually appointed, shall choose a Speaker; and in the absence of the Speaker, or when he shall exercise the office of President, the Senate shall choose a Speaker pro tempore.

Article the Sixth.

After the third day of March, one thousand eight hun-

dred and thirteen, the President shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and of the House of Representatives, shall appoint Ambassadors, other public Ministers, and Consuls, Judges of the Supreme Court, and all other officers of the United States whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law. But Congress may, by law, vest the appointment of such officers as they think proper, in the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate; and of the inferior officers in the President alone, in the courts of law, or in the heads of departments. But no law vesting the power of appointment shall be for a longer term than two years. All proceedings on nominations shall be with closed doors, and without debate; but information of the character and qualifications of the person nominated shall be received.

Article the Seventh.

After the third day of March, one thousand eight hundred and thirteen, the President shall have power to fill all vacancies that may happen during the recess of Congress, by granting commissions, which shall expire at the end of their next session. No removal from office shall take place without the consent of the Senate and House of Representatives. But Congress may, by law, authorize the removal, by the same power as may, by law, be authorized to make the appointment. But in every case of misconduct in office, where the consent of the Senate, or of the Senate and House of Representatives, shall be necessary to a removal, the President, during the recess of Congress, may suspend the officer, and make a temporary appointment of a person to exercise the office, until the next meeting of Congress, and until a decision can be had by the Senate, or by the Senate and House of Representatives, as the case may be, on a question for the removal of the officer suspended. All proceedings respecting removal from office shall be had without debate, upon the

information and reasons which shall be communicated by the President, and with closed doors.

This resolution was seconded by the Hon. Wm. H. Crawford, Senator from Georgia, and was printed by order of the Senate. Shortly afterwards, Mr. Hillhouse resigned his seat in that body, to assume the management of the school-fund of the State of Connecticut; and no vote was ever taken upon his resolution.

It is proper to observe, that some time after this plan was submitted to the Senate, it was revised by its author, and the term of service suggested for Representatives in Congress was two years, and that of Senators six years, as they had been originally fixed by the Constitution, and as they now remain; and the proposed term of service for President was extended to two years, instead of one.

Having read to you the resolution, as offered in the Senate, I will next offer the letters which I have mentioned.

FROM JAMES MADISON.

MONTPELIER, 17th May, 1830.

DEAR SIR:—

I have received your letter of the 10th instant, with the pamphlet containing the proposed amendments of the Constitution of the United States, on which you request my opinion and remarks.

Whatever pleasure might be felt in a fuller compliance with your request, I must avail myself of the pleas of the age I have reached and of the control of other engagements, for not venturing on more than the few observations suggested by a perusal of what you have submitted to the public.

I readily acknowledge the ingenuity which devised the plan you recommend, and the strength of reasoning with which you support it. I cannot, however, but regard it as liable to the following remarks.

1st. The first that occurs is that the large states would not exchange the proportional agency they now have in the appointment of the chief magistrate, for a mode placing the largest and smallest states on a perfect equality in that cardinal transaction. New York has in it, even now, more than thirteen times the weight of several of the states, and other states according to their magnitudes would decide on the change with correspondent calculations and feelings. The difficulty of reconciling the larger states to the equality in the Senate, is known to have been the most threatening that was encountered in framing the Constitution. It is known, also, that the powers committed to that body, comprehend-

ing as they do, Legislative, Executive, and Judicial functions, was among the most serious objections with many, to the adoption of the Constitution.

2d. As the President elect would generally be without any previous evidence of national confidence, and have been in responsible relations only to a particular state, there might be danger of state partialities and a certainty of injurious suspicions of them.

3d. Considering the ordinary composition of the Senate, and the number (in a little while nearly twenty) out of which a single one was to be taken by pure chance, it must often happen that the winner of the prize would want some of the qualities necessary to command the respect of the nation, and possibly be marked with some of an opposite tendency. On a review of the composition of that body through the successive periods of its existence, (antecedent to the present, which may be an exception,) how often will names present themselves, which would be seen with mortified feelings at the head of the nation. It might happen, it is true, that in the choice of Senators, an eventual elevation to that important trust, might produce more circumspection in the State Legislatures. But so remote a contingency could not be expected to have any great influence; besides that there might be states not furnishing at the time, characters which would satisfy the pride or inspire the confidence of the States and of the people.

4th. A President not appointed by the nation, and without the weight derived from its selection and confidence, could not afford the advantage expected from the qualified negative on the acts of the Legislative branch of the Government. He might either shrink from the delicacy of such an interposition, or it might be overruled with too little hesitation by the body checked in its career.

5th. In the vicissitudes of party, adverse views and feelings will exist between the Senate and President. Under the amendments proposed, a spirit of opposition in the former to the latter, would probably be more frequent than heretofore. In such a state of things, how apt might the Senate be to embarrass the President, in refusing to concur in the removal of an obnoxious officer: how prone would be a refractory officer having powerful friends in the Senate to take shelter under that authority and bid defiance to the President, and with such discord and anarchy in the executive department, how impaired would be the security for a due execution of the laws?

6th. On the supposition that the above objection would be overbalanced by the advantage of reducing the power and the patronage now attached to the Presidential office; it has generally been admitted that the heads of departments, at least, who are at once the associates and organs of the chief magistrate, ought to be well disposed towards him, and not independent of him. What would be the situation of the President, and what might be the effect on the executive business, if those immediately around him, and in daily consultation with him, could, however adverse to him in their feelings and their views, be fastened upon him by a Senate disposed to take sides with them? The harmony so expedient between the President and heads of departments, and among the latter themselves, has been too liable to interruption under an organization apparently so well providing against it.

I am aware that some of these objections might be mitigated, if not removed; but not I suspect, in a degree to render the proposed modification of the Executive Department an eligible substitute for the one existing. At the same time

I am duly sensible of the evils incident to the existing one, and that a solid improvement of it is a desideratum that ought to be welcomed by all enlightened patriots.

In the meantime I cannot feel all the alarm you express at the prospect for the future, as reflected from the mirror of the past. It will be a rare case that the Presidential contest will not issue in a choice that will not discredit the station, and not be acquiesced in by the unsuccessful party, foreseeing, as it must do, the appeal to be again made at no very distant day, to the will of the nation. As long as the country shall be exempt from a military force, powerful in itself and combined with a powerful faction, liberty and peace will find safeguards in the elective resource, and the spirit of the people. The dangers which threaten our political system least remote, are perhaps of other sorts and from other sources.

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JAMES MADISON.

FROM JOHN MARSHALL.

RICHMOND, May 26th, 1830.

MY DEAR SIR:—

I have just returned from North Carolina, and had, this morning, the pleasure of receiving your letter of the 10th, accompanying your proposition for amending the Constitution of the United States as to the mode of electing the President, and your speech made on that subject in the Senate, in 1808. I read your speech, when first published, with great pleasure and attention, but was not then a convert to either of the amendments it suggested. In truth, there is something so captivating in the idea of a chief executive magistrate who is the choice of a whole people, that it is extremely difficult to withdraw the judgment from its influence. The advantages which ought to result from it are manifest. They strike the mind at once, and we are unwilling to believe that they can be defeated, or that the operation of choosing can be attended with evils which more than counterbalance the actual good resulting from the choice. It is humiliating, too, to admit that we must look in any degree to chance, for that decision which ought to be made by the judgment. These strong, and apparently rational convictions, can be shaken only by long observation and painful experience. Mine are, I confess, very much shaken, and my views of this subject have changed a good deal since 1808. I consider it, however, rather as an affair of curious speculation, than of probable fact. Your plan comes in conflict with so many opposing interests and deep rooted prejudices, that I should despair of its success, were its utility still more apparent than it is.

All those who are candidates for the Presidency, either immediately or remotely, and they are more numerous than is imagined, and are the most powerful members of the community, will be opposed to it. The body of the people will also most probably be in opposition ; for it will be difficult to persuade them that any mode of choice can be preferable to election, mediate or immediate, by themselves. The ardent politicians of the country, not yet moderated by experience, will consider it as an imputation on the great republican principle, that

the people are capable of governing themselves, if any other mode of appointing a chief magistrate be substituted for that which depends on their agency. I believe, therefore, that we must proceed with our present system till its evils become still more obvious; perhaps, indeed, till the experiment shall become impracticable, before we shall be willing to change it.

My own private mind has been slowly and reluctantly advancing to the belief that the present mode of choosing the chief magistrate threatens the most serious danger to the public happiness. The passions of men are inflamed to so fearful an extent, large masses are so embittered against each other, that I dread the consequences. The election agitates every section of the United States, and the ferment is never to subside. Scarcely is a President elected, before the machinations respecting a successor commence. Every political question is affected by it. All those who are in office, all those who want office, are put in motion. The angriest, I might say the worst passions, are roused and put into full activity. Vast masses, united closely, move in opposite directions, animated with the most hostile feelings towards each other. What is to be the effect of all this? Age is, perhaps, unreasonably timid. Certain it is, that I now dread consequences which I once thought imaginary. I feel disposed to take refuge under some less turbulent and less dangerous mode of choosing the chief magistrate, and my mind suggests none less objectionable than that you have proposed. We shall no longer be enlisted under the banners of particular men. Strife will no longer be excited, when it can no longer effect its object. Neither the people at large, nor the councils of the nation, will be agitated by the all-disturbing question,—Who shall be President? Yet he will, in truth, be chosen substantially by the people. The Senators must always be among the most able men of the States. Though not appointed for the particular purpose, they must always be appointed for important purposes, and must possess a large share of the public confidence. If the people of the United States were to elect as many persons as compose one senatorial class, and the President was to be chosen among them by lot, in the manner you propose, he would be substantially elected by the people; and yet such a mode of election would be recommended by no advantages which your plan does not possess. In many respects it would be less eligible.

Reasoning *a priori*, I should undoubtedly pronounce the system adopted by the Convention, the best that could be devised. Judging from experience, I am driven to a different conclusion. * * * * * * *

Your obed't serv't.,

J. MARSHALL.

FROM WM. H. CRAWFORD.

WOOD LAWN, 4th June, 1830.

MY DEAR SIR:—

I received, with much pleasure, your letter of the 12th ult. from Washington, accompanied by the pamphlet which was enclosed. I received this token of friendly recollection with more pleasure, as I pass my time in great retirement, and mix and mingle but little with those who are now actively engaged in the State or Federal government. I recollect distinctly the proposition of amendment to the Constitution, which you submitted to the Senate twenty-two years

ago, and which I then seconded. At that time, I had not made up my mind definitely upon the principle of the amendment. Reflection and experience has convinced me that the amendment is correct. I am now entirely convinced that great talents are not necessary for the chief magistracy of this nation. A moderate share of talents, with integrity of character and conduct, is all that is necessary. Under the principle of your amendment, I think there is little probability that a President would be elected, weaker than Col. ———, or with less practical common sense than Mr. ———. But I am not certain that the nation is prepared for such an amendment. There is something fascinating in the idea of selecting the best talents in the nation for the chief magistrate of the Union. The view which ought to decide in favor of the principle of your amendment, is seldom taken. The true view is this: elective chief magistrates are not, and cannot, in the nature of things, be the best men in the nation; while such elections never fail to produce mischief to the nation. The evils of such elections have generally induced civilized nations to submit to hereditary monarchy. Now the evil which is incident to this form of government, is that of having the oldest son of the monarch for ruler, whether he is a fool, a rascal, or a madman. I think no man who will reflect coolly upon the subject, but would prefer a President chosen by lot out of the Senate, to running the risk of having a fool, a rascal, or a madman, in the oldest son of the wisest and most benevolent sovereign that ever lived. When the amendment is considered in this point of view, I think it will find favor, especially when it must be admitted that the election of a President in this manner will be productive of as little turmoil and agitation as the accession of the son to the father in hereditary monarchies. The more I reflect upon the subject, the more I am in favor of your amendment. The country is, at this time, much agitated on constitutional doubts which exist as to the acts of Congress. Would not a Convention at this time remove much of the discontent that now prevails? The resolutions for calling a Convention should express the object to be to explain doubtful questions which have arisen under the Constitution, and the election of President. If you think with me, will you use your influence with the Legislatures of New England to obtain a call of a Convention to revise the Federal Constitution? I am persuaded that unless the measure is brought about, we shall have an explosion in the republic, and that in our time. I have as little interest in the preservation of union and harmony as, perhaps, any living man in the nation, yet I cannot feel indifferent to the symptoms of disunion which are daily manifested.

I am, Dear Sir, your friend and most obd't serv't,

WM. H. CRAWFORD.

FROM JAMES KENT.

New York, June 3, 1830.

Dear Sir:—

I have read and reflected upon your "Propositions for amending the Constitution of the United States," as to the election of President, and your powerful argument in support of them.

Within the last few years, the tendency of popular elections of the President, in the mode now in use, to intrigue, corruption, and tyranny, has been perceived

in so striking a light, as justly to excite uneasiness and anxiety among considerate patriots. It is that part of the machine of our government that I am afraid is doomed to destroy us. The evil is waxing worse every year. We assume too much, (for we are contradicted by all history, and experience, and by known and fixed principles of *our* nature,) when we assume that the people will act disinterestedly and virtuously, when free to act. It is not so. Self-interest, passion, prejudice, fanaticism, &c., will continue to inflame the human breast, and away the actions; and it is the object of wise institutions to check and control the operation of these evil propensities. Our plan of election of a President, I apprehend, has failed of its purpose, as it was presumed and foretold that it would fail, by some of the profoundest statesmen of 1787. We cannot but perceive that this very presidential question has already disturbed and corrupted the administration of the government, and cherishes intrigue, duplicity, abuse of power, and corrupt and arbitrary measures. I am strongly inclined to think, therefore, that your plan of selecting the President from the Senators of the oldest class, by lot, and for two years, would be a vast improvement; and though I utterly despair of any attempt to alter the present system, and presume that your plan will be regarded by the community generally as Utopian or impracticable, I wish not to withhold from you the humble sense of my approbation. Your reflections are sage, patriotic, and denote deep and just knowledge of government and man. * * * * * * *

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Yours, very sincerely,

JAMES KENT.

Hon. James Hillhouse.

It will be seen that the letters which have just been read, were written without any concert or previous understanding among their authors in relation to the subject of their respective communications. They may, therefore, be regarded as exhibiting the individual opinions of the writers upon the interesting question that was submitted to their candid judgment,—and they each display in a remarkable degree the peculiarities of great and gifted minds. The graceful style, perspicuous arrangement and acute reasoning of Mr. Madison, afford the clearest evidence that he had maturely considered, and fully understood the subject that engaged his thoughts, and appreciated its importance. The suffrages of his countrymen had twice made him President of the United States, and it was natural that he should feel a partiality for a system under which he had attained such distinguished honor. And habit and association had so familiarized

him with the affairs of government under existing regulations, that he might feel less inclined than others to look upon them with distrust, or to seek after new schemes that others would consider more conducive to the public welfare.

The letter of Chief Justice Marshall, though less perspicuous in its style and arrangement than that of Mr. Madison, is nevertheless characterized throughout by the originality, strength, comprehensiveness, and candid judgment, for which that eminent man was so justly distinguished. It breathes the sentiments of patriotism, and utters the language of wisdom, and shows us that in his declining years, its illustrious author was not unmindful of the happiness of that country whose institutions his genius had contributed so much to adorn, and which could claim him as one of her most honored statesmen and profound jurists.

The views of Mr. Crawford, are frank and explicit, and indicate a vigorous intellect and an honest heart. He was familiar with the subject about which he wrote, and the experience, observation, and reflection of many years, brought his mind to the conclusion at which it arrived on this momentous question. He had enjoyed in an eminent degree, the respect and confidence of his countrymen, and had participated largely in the affairs of the government. He ranked high among the most distinguished public men of his day, and withdrew from the public service with an unsullied fame, and spent the latter part of his life in a retirement as honorable and dignified as his previous career, as a statesman, had been illustrious. He was an associate in the Senate with Mr. Hillhouse, in 1808, and, as he tells us in his letter, which has been read before you, seconded the resolution under consideration when it was offered in that body.

Of Chancellor Kent's letter, we need say but little. He was our fellow citizen and known to most of us personally, and to us all by reputation. Probity, frankness, and

decision, were leading traits in his character, and great reflection, profound learning, comprehensive wisdom, and mature judgment, formed distinguishing qualities of his mind. Among the virtuous and intelligent, it was sufficient to entitle any sentiments or opinions to respectful consideration, to know that they had the approbation of Chancellor Kent. He was not accustomed to arrive at conclusions hastily, nor to give the sanction of his name or influence to crude novelties or visionary speculations. This letter is characteristic of its author, and displays the patriotic feeling, the keen intelligence, and truthful simplicity that mark whatever has emanated from his mind.

When these letters were written, their distinguished authors were beyond the reach of popular favor, and each of them, except Chief Justice Marshall, who then retained his place on the bench of the Supreme Court of the United States, had retired to private life, after pursuing a distinguished career in the public service. They were actuated by no sentiments of unworthy ambition, no desire to win popular applause, and had nothing of personal advancement to gain by espousing any new cause, or promulgating any new doctrines. They followed the promptings of patriotic feelings, and spoke the language of sincerity. They had witnessed the most terrible conflicts of political strife, and the most dangerous manifestations of party enthusiasm and violence. They had, themselves, mingled in a greater or less degree in the exciting struggles that had at various times agitated our country, and from their experience, observation, and reflection, were eminently qualified to counsel their countrymen as to the best means of preserving their liberty and perpetuating their institutions. Their views and opinions upon a subject of momentous interest to us all, are now before us, and whether we can see good reasons for adopting or rejecting them, they are, at least, entitled to our most respectful consideration.

I will now briefly notice the speech of Mr. Hillhouse,

made in support of his proposed amendments of the constitution, at the time they were offered in the Senate. It is worthy of a very critical examination and would well repay the trouble of reading it entire, but we have only time on this occasion to present a summary of the points it embraces. I intend to place a printed copy of this speech in the possession of this Society, so that it may be read at length by those who may feel sufficiently interested in this subject to do so.

After alluding to the fact, that the people of the country had divided themselves into two great political parties, the author lays down the following proposition.

"Two evils to be guarded against in a republican government, are *ambition* and *favoritism*. The former," he says, "induces the most aspiring, artful, and unprincipled men to assume the garb of patriotism for the purpose of obtaining office and power, and when they have obtained it, they extend their patronage and favor to those who have been most active and instrumental in procuring their elevation."

He then proceeds to point out the consequences of these evils to the country, and to suggest the means of counteracting them; the most efficient of which are, to strip our highest public functionaries of all unnecessary authority, power, and patronage, and make them more immediately and more frequently accountable to the searching tribunal of public opinion. In remarking upon this subject, he holds the following language.

"No man's jealousy or fears can be excited respecting the exercise of a power, which he clearly sees to be subject to his own control. What excites alarm among the people, is an accumulation of power in the hands of an individual, or of a small body of men, which, added to a long duration in office and high salaries, they believe may endanger their liberties. To this poison, frequent elections are an antidote. * * * * *

A popular flame cannot be kept alive when there is no fuel to feed it."

Upon the subject of selecting a President by lot from the Senators having the shortest term to serve, the speech we are considering, assumes that there may be two prominent objections to the plan proposed. One is, that it is a departure from the elective principle; and the other is, that it will not always secure the best talents. It is conceded that there is much force in the first mentioned objection, and it is answered, by setting forth the difficulties and dangers that are likely to ensue from popular elections of a national chief magistrate in times of high party excitement; and of the tendency of the present mode of conducting a presidential canvass to produce party strife and discord.

The plan under consideration is suggested as a safer and easier mode of appointing a chief magistrate, and one less calculated to endanger the public tranquillity and popular liberty.

To the other objection, it is answered that the present mode of choosing a President will not always secure the highest order of talent for that high office, and that candidates will be selected more with reference to their personal popularity, than any other qualities they may possess. The governing principle with parties now, in the choice of a leader, is to get a popular man, and one that can command votes. Again, it is answered that the selection of a President, by lot, from the Senate, will always secure respectable talents, and will also add to the dignity and importance of the Senatorial office, and make the several States of the Union more careful to choose, as the representatives of their sovereignty in our national councils, men of the highest character and qualifications.

It is also said, that the President can call to his aid in his cabinet, men of the greatest talents, integrity, and experience, and who, under the proposed plan, would

probably continue long in office, and thereby give stability and system to the measures of government. It is doubted whether the greatest and most brilliant men make the best rulers, and it is also questioned whether history will satisfy us that the liberties of mankind have been more safe, or that the public affairs have been conducted in a manner more promotive of the happiness of the people, when such persons have swayed the sceptre of government, than when the chief magistrate of a nation has been only a man of moderate talents, provided he possessed sound judgment, good principles, and an honest heart. Many other important topics are suggested and discussed in the speech before us, which there is not time to examine on this occasion, and I will simply repeat the points upon which the argument was based in favor of choosing a President by lot from the members of the Senate, according to the plan which has been proposed, and leave the subject to those who may wish to pursue it further.

The advantages which were expected to be secured by the proposed amendments to the Constitution, in regard to the choice of a President, are stated by its author to be—

"1st. That it will make the Senate more respectable.

"2d. It is prompt and certain.

"3d. It will avoid the evils of a disputed election, now unprovided for by the Constitution.

"4th. It will avoid intrigue and cabal.

"5th. It gives talents and modest merit an equal chance.

"6th. It is economical.

"7th. It gives to the people a President of the United States, and not the chief of a party.

"8th. It removes temptation to use power otherwise than for public good.

"9th. It will annihilate a general party pervading the whole United States.

"10th. It will remove a *direct*, *powerful*, and *dangerous* influence of the general government on the individual States.

"11th. It will prevent the *influence* of a presidential election on our *domestic concerns* and *foreign relations*. And,

"12th. It will secure the United States against the *usurpation* of *power*, and every attempt, through *fear*, *interest* or *corruption*, to sacrifice their *interest*, *honor* or *independence;* for one year is too short a time in which to contrive and execute any extensive and dangerous plan of unprincipled ambition; and the same person cannot be President during two successive years."

If all these beneficial results could be attained by the proposed amendments of the Constitution of our government, they would find many strenuous advocates. For, however men may differ on political or party grounds, the mass of the people, beyond a doubt, most desire that system of administering their affairs, that will best preserve public liberty, and perpetuate our institutions, and secure to us the blessings of order, permanency and peace. The masses of the people derive no benefit from political agitation and party strife. Politicians and demagogues alone profit by the popular excitements that so frequently disturb our country. Parties become formed upon so large a scale, and wield an influence so commanding, that it has become almost impossible to effect any great measure of public good, or of public justice, that is not brought forward under party auspices.

Independence of thought and action upon all the great questions of government, seems to have given way to the allegiance that men begin to feel that they owe to party, and the attachment they have imbibed for their political chieftains. And to such an extent does this sentiment prevail, that it is more frequently the subject of boasting and self-congratulation with large numbers of our intelligent and respectable citizens, that they have always adhered consistently to the measures and discipline of

their party, than that they have fairly canvassed and considered the merits of public men and public measures, and cast their suffrages accordingly. Could these evils be removed, it would be a source of great relief to honest and patriotic men.

It is now forty years since the proposition to amend the Constitution, which we have been considering, was submitted to the Senate. Within that time there have been ten presidential elections, and we are on the eve of the eleventh. It does not become me to speak, on this occasion, of the manner in which these elections have been conducted, nor of the influence which they have produced on the public mind, or of their effect upon the general welfare and happiness of the people. Nor does the occasion require that I should speak of the distinguished persons who have been the successful candidates for popular favor in these successive elections; or of the manner in which they have discharged the high duties that the partiality of their countrymen have assigned them. These are familiar in our history, and to many of us are matters of observation and personal knowledge.

Whatever advantages we might possibly obtain by changes in our Constitution, it is certain that, in its present form, it has secured to us a greater degree of national happiness, prosperity, and tranquillity, than has been enjoyed by the people of any other country since the birth of this republic. From a very feeble origin, we have advanced to almost unexampled greatness and strength. From a few small and distracted colonies, we have become the greatest, the most stable, and the most tranquil republic that ever existed. Our course is still onward, and destiny seems to have marked out for us a still larger measure of usefulness, splendor, and power. The light of our principles, and the genius of our institutions, are shedding their benign influence upon other lands, and the people of distant climes. We are the pioneers in the

great experiment of self government founded upon the popular will.

May the other nations of the earth speedily attain to the high privileges we possess, and like us enjoy the blessings of a free constitution, and a well regulated civil and religious liberty.

On the conclusion of the address, Mr. Bartlett offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be presented to James H. Raymond, Esq., for the interesting paper just read, and that he be requested to furnish a copy for the Society's archives.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

STATED MEETING, JUNE 6, 1848.

The Hon. LUTHER BRADISH, First Vice President, in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Domestic Corresponding Secretary, MR. BEEKMAN, presented and read his report of correspondence for the month of May. He also read a communication received from the New York Lyceum of Natural History, proposing an exchange of certain models in stone, of ancient temples and ruins, belonging to the Lyceum, for books on Natural History, in possession of the Society.

On motion of Mr. Gibbs, the proposition of the N. Y. Lyceum was referred to the Executive Committee, with power.

A communication addressed to the President, from Hon. Elisha Whittlesey, General Agent of the Washington National Monument Association, was read, inviting the Historical Society to attend the ceremony of laying the corner stone of the Monument in the City of Washington, on the 4th of July next.

On motion of Mr. Gibbs, it was resolved, that the Society accept the invitation.

The Librarian, Mr. MOORE, laid upon the table, manuscript catalogues of the Maps and Charts, and Newspapers, belonging to the Society, which had been com-

pleted and bound. He also announced the additions made to the Library, since the last meeting, as follows:—

BY DONATION.

Brady's Fac Simile Edition of Thomas' History of Pennsylvania and West-New-Jersey, A. D. 1698:

"An Historical and Geographical Account of the Province and Country of Pensilvania; and of West-New-Jersey in America. The Richness of the Soil; the Sweetness of the Situation; the Wholesomness of the Air; the Navigable Rivers, and others; the prodigious Encrease of Corn; the flourishing Condition of the City of Philadelphia, with the stately Buildings, and other Improvements there. The strange Creatures, as Birds, Beasts, Fishes, and Fowls, with the several sorts of Minerals, Purging Waters, and Stones, lately discovered. The Natives, Aborigines, their language, Religion, Laws, and Customs; The first planters, the Dutch, Sweeds, and English, with the number of its Inhabitants; As also a Touch upon George Keith's New Religion, in his second Change since he left the Quakers. With a Map of both Countries. By Gabriel Thomas, who resided there about Fifteen Years." New York. Lithographed in Fac Simile, for and under the direction of Henry Austin Brady, Esq., Member of the New York Historical Society, &c., by Francis Michelin, 1848. Small folio, large paper, of which size only six copies were printed.—*Gift of Henry A. Brady.*

Lossing, B. J. Biographical Sketches of the Signers of the Declaration of American Independence; with the Declaration historically considered; and a sketch of the leading events connected with the adoption of the Articles of Confederation and of the Federal Constitution. Illustrated by 50 portraits and other engravings. 12mo. New York, 1848.

——— ———. Seventeen Hundred and Seventy-Six, or the War of Independence; a history of the Anglo Americans, from the period of the Union of the Colonies against the French, to the inauguration of Washington, the first President of the United States of America. 8vo. New York, 1847.—*Gift of the Author.*

West, Charles E. Hobart's Analysis of Bishop Butler's Analogy of Religion, natural and revealed, to the constitution and course

of nature. With notes. Also, Craufurd's Questions for examination. Revised and adapted to the use of schools. By Charles E. West, Principal of Rutgers Institute in the City of New York. 18mo. New York, 1848.—*Gift of the Author.*

Barton, James L. Address on the Early Reminiscences of Western New York, and the Lake Region of Country. Delivered before the Young Men's Society of Buffalo, 16th Feb. 1848. 8vo. Buffalo, 1848.—*Gift of O. H. Marshall.*

Leavitt, Joshua. Remarks and Statistics on the subject of Cheap Postage, and Postal Reform, in Great Britain and the United States. 8vo. Boston, 1848.—*Gift of the Author.*

Prime, Samuel Irenæus. An Address delivered at the opening of the Hall of the Newark Library Association, 21st February, 1848. 8vo. Newark, 1848.—*Gift of the Newark Library Association.*

Vaïsse, Léon. De L'Ecriture et de son origine, ainsi que des différents systèmes de Signes Ecrits et de Moyens Graphiques usités chez les principaux Peuples du Globe, tant anciens que modernes. 8vo. Paris, 1848.—*Gift of the Author.*

Banvard, John. Description of Banvard's Panorama of the Mississippi River, painted on three miles of canvass, exhibiting a view of country 1200 miles in length, extending from the Mouth of the Missouri River to the City of New Orleans, being by far the largest picture ever executed by man. 8vo. Boston, 1847.

Everett, Edward. A Eulogy on the Life and Character of John Quincy Adams, delivered at the request of the Legislature of Massachusetts, in Faneuil Hall, April 15th, 1848. 8vo. Boston, 1848.—*Gift of the Author.*

Hillhouse, James. Proposition for amending the Constitution of the United States, submitted by Mr. Hillhouse to the Senate, on the 12th day of April, 1808, with his explanatory remarks. 8vo. New Haven, 1808.—*Gift of James H. Raymond.*

Massachusetts. Senate Doc. No. 9. Report of Benjamin Perley Poore, of his agency in procuring copies of public documents from the archives of France, with letters of Gov. Briggs, Mr. Palfrey and Mr. Sparks, in relation thereto.—*Gift of Hon. J. G. Palfrey.*

Palfrey, James G. Speech on the Political Aspect of the Slave Question, delivered in the House of Representatives, January 26th, 1848. 8vo. Washington, 1848.—*Gift of the Author.*

Proceedings of the Court Martial in the trial of Lieutenant Colonel

Frémont. 8vo. Washington, 1848.—*Gift of Hon. D. S. Dickinson.*

American Art Union. Proceedings of, for the year 1847.

——— ——— First and Second Bulletin, April 25, and May 10, 1848.

Proceedings of the New York Democratic State Convention, held at the Capitol, Jan. 26 and 27, 1848.

Noah, M. M. A Letter addressed to the Southern Delegates of the Baltimore Convention, on the claims of the "Barnburners," to be admitted to seats in that Convention.—*Gift of Prosper M. Wetmore.*

Report of Mr. Murphy, of the Joint Library Committee of Congress, on the memorial of M. Vattemare, in relation to international exchanges.—*Gift of Hon. H. C. Murphy.*

An Appeal to the Whig National Convention, in favor of the nomination of Daniel Webster to the Presidency. By a Whig from the start. 8vo. New York, 1848.—*Gift of George P. Putnam.*

Lay, G. T. The Chinese as they are; their moral and social character, manners, customs, and language, with remarks on their arts and sciences, their medical skill, &c. Containing, also, Illustrative and Corroborative Notes; by E. G. Squier. 8vo. Albany, 1843.—*Gift of Joel Munsell.*

Hall, J. Prescott. A Discourse, delivered before the New England Society of New York, Dec. 22, 1847. 8vo. New York, 1848.

Proceedings of the Bar of the City of New York, on the occasion of the death of Chancellor Kent, Dec. 14, 1847. 8vo. New York, 1848.

Duer, John. A Discourse on the Life, Character, and Public Services of James Kent, late Chancellor of the State of New York; delivered by request before the Judiciary and Bar of the City and State of New York, April 12, 1848. 8vo. New York, 1848.—*Gift of Marshall S. Bidwell.*

——— ———. Copy of the same.—*Gift of the Author.*

Annual Message, with the Reports and accompanying Documents, transmitted to Congress by the President, at the opening of the 1st session, 30th Congress, (Dec. 7, 1847.)—*Gift of Marshall S. Bidwell.*

London Metropolitan Sanitary Commission. First Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire whether any, and what special means may be requisite for the improvement of the

Health of the Metropolis. Also, Minutes of the Evidence taken before the Commissioners. Fol. London, 1847.—*Gift of John Romeyn Brodhead.*

Wiltbank, John. Valedictory Address delivered before the graduating class of the Medical Department of Pennsylvania College, session of 1844–5. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1847.

Patterson, Henry S. Valedictory Address, delivered before the graduates of the Medical Department of Pennsylvania College, session 1843–4. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1844.

Pettit, Thomas M'Kean. An Annual Discourse delivered before the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Nov. 19, 1828. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1828.

Halsted, Oliver S. Address upon the Character of the late Hon. Isaac H. Williamson, delivered before the Bar of New Jersey, Sept. 3, 1844. 8vo. Newark, 1844.

Tyson, Job R. Memoir of Thomas C. James, M. D., one of the Vice Presidents of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Read before the Society, 1st Feb. 1836. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1836.

Chandler, Joseph R. The Pilgrims of the Rock. An Oration delivered in the First Congregational Church, before the Society of the Sons of New England of Philadelphia, at their second anniversary, 22d December, 1845. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1846.

Thayer, M. Russell. Reciprocal Influences of the Physical and Intellectual World. An Oration delivered before the Zelosophic Society of the University of Pennsylvania, on its 13th anniversary, Oct. 29, 1842. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1842.—*The preceding,* (7 *in number,*) *the gift of Samuel Hazard of Philadelphia.*

The Journal of Isaac Senter, Physician and Surgeon to the troops detached from the American Army encamped at Cambridge, Mass., as a secret expedition against Quebec, under the command of Col. Benedict Arnold, Sept. 1775. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1846.—*Gift of Pennsylvania Historical Society.*

Thornton, Henry. An Inquiry into the Nature and Effects of the Paper credit of Great Britain. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1807. —*Gift of Rev. R. W. Griswold.*

Munsell, Joel. Outline of the History of Printing, and sketches of the early Printers. 8vo. Albany, 1839.

Pepper, C. Jun. Manor of Rensselaerwyck. 8vo. Albany, 1846.

Knox, John P. A brief History of the Protestant Reformed Dutch

Church in Nassau, preached Jan. 10, 1841. 8vo. Albany, 1841.

Sprague, William B. A Sermon, delivered on Sabbath morning, Jan. 4, 1846, containing sketches of the History of the Second Presbyterian Church and Congregation, Albany, during thirty years from the period of their organization. 8vo. Albany, 1846.

——— ———. A Sermon on the Danger of Political Strife, addressed to the Second Presbyterian Congregation, Albany, Oct. 13, 1844. 8vo. Albany, 1844.

——— ———. An Address delivered at the opening of the Brooklyn Female Academy, May, 4, 1846. 8vo. Albany, 1846.

——— ———. An Address delivered on the evening of the 22d February, 1847, before the Young Men's Association of the City of Albany. 8vo. Albany, 1847.

——— ———. A Discourse commemorative of the Rev. Thomas Chalmers, D. D., delivered in the second Presbyterian Church, Albany, June 27, 1847. 8vo. Albany, 1847.

Fisher, Samuel W. The Supremacy of Mind. A Lecture before the Young Men's Association of the City of Troy. 8vo. Albany, 1845.

Smith, J. Few. The American Lutheran Mission, with an Appeal in its behalf: an address before the General Synod, May 16, 1845. 8vo. Albany, 1845.

Wyckoff, Isaac N. Stability, an indispensable element of usefulness and greatness. An Address delivered before the alumni of Rutgers College, Jan. 14, 1840. 8vo. Albany, 1840.

The Fancy Ball. A Letter, lost from the Port Folio of a Young Lady of Albany. 8vo. Albany, 1846.

Random Sketches upon Witches, Dreams, Love, and Romance. By a Free Thinker. 8vo. Albany, 1847.

Curtis, Newton M. The Bride of the Northern Wilds. A Tale. 8vo. New York, 1843.

The Legends of Lampidosa, or the Seven Heroines. 8vo. New York, 1844.

Prynne, Arthur. The Full and True History of the Conquest of Mexico, by Cortez; by Capt. Bernal Diaz del Castillo, one of the Conquerors. Translated by Prynne. 8vo. Albany.

Miller, George B. Harmonious Action the duty of the Church, a Sermon preached before the New York Ministerium of the

Evangelical Lutheran Church, at Albany, Sept. 7, 1845. 8vo. Albany, 1845.

Lawyer, John D. The Distinction: or the Word of God against the Traditions of Men. A Discourse delivered at the General Conference of Evangelical Lutheran Ministers, held at German Flatts, Sept. 25, 1845. 8vo. Albany, 1846.

Smith, Charles A. Discourse on Missions, delivered before the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium of the State of New York. 8vo. Albany, 1838.

Journal of the Ninth Annual Session of the Franckean Evangelic Lutheran Synod, convened at Fordsboro, N. Y., June 4, 1846.

Potter, Horatio. Rightly dividing the Word of Truth. A Sermon on the Religious Tendencies of the Age, and the consequent duty of the Christian Minister, preached in St. Peter's Church, Albany, Nov. 23, 1844. 8vo. Albany, 1844.

Kip, Wm. Ingraham. Our National Sins; a Sermon, preached at St. Paul's Church in the City of Albany, on the evening of the 20th Sunday after Trinity, 1840. 8vo. Albany, 1840.

Batey, John. Thoughts on the Immortality and Future Condition of Man: designed for all who deny a Future State, but more especially as a reply to Rev. George Storrs' enquiry, "Are the souls of the wicked immortal?" 8vo. Albany, 1843.

Smith, James. Man, with his ability, through the atonement, to render himself acceptable to God; with advice as to the means of accomplishing it. 8vo. Albany, 1841.

First Presbyterian Church, Albany. Proceedings, March 22, 1847, respecting change of place of worship.

Steele, John B. The Symbol and Word of Encouragement to the Builders of the Spiritual Temple. A Sermon preached at the Ordination and Installation of Rev. Richard H. Steele, as pastor over the Presbyterian Church of Freehold, in Charlton, Feb. 16, 1848. 8vo. Albany, 1848.

Huntington, Ezra A. The House of God, and the Laws of the House. A Sermon, preached at the dedication of the new house of worship erected by the Third Presbyterian Church, Albany, Dec. 3, 1845. 8vo. Albany, 1845.

Potter, Horatio. Remarks in favor of Free Churches; being part of an Address delivered on the occasion of laying the corner stone of a Free Church at Fort Edward. 8vo. Albany, 1845.

Odd Fellows. Firemen's Lodge, No. 19, Albany. Exercises on the celebration of the 6th Anniversary, March 21, 1843. Poem

by Alfred B. Street, Oration by George W. Clinton. 8vo. Albany, 1843.

Brittan, S. B. A Discourse on War, or the Duties and Obligations of the Individual, as connected with the Rights of the Civil Government, delivered April 3, 1847. 8vo. Albany, 1847.

Edwards, Isaac. Temperance Oration, delivered at Guilderland Centre, July 4, 1844. 8vo. Albany, 1844.

Smith, J. Hyatt. National Oration, delivered at Guilderland Centre, July 4, 1844. 8vo. Albany, 1844.

Report of the Vestry of St. Peter's Church, Albany, of the Lay Delegates appointed by them, who attended the Diocesan Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church at New York, 23—30 Sept. 1845. 8vo. Albany, 1845.

Watson, Alexander. A Lecture, delivered April 2, 1845, before the members of the Albany Female Academy, at the close of the annual course on Astronomy. 8vo. Albany, 1845.

Albany Female Academy. Exercises of the Alumnæ, Fifth Anniversary, 16th July, 1846. 8vo. Albany, 1846.

Halley, Ebenezer. Christianity; its past struggles—its present position—its future prospects. An Address, delivered before the Theological Society at Union College, July 25, 1847. 8vo. Albany, 1847.

Clericus. A Letter to the Synod of Albany, on the subject of Dancing—wherein is discussed the question, Ought the Synod to take action on this subject, which shall bind the conscience of the Church? 8vo. Albany, 1847.

Minutes of the Particular Synod of Albany, convened at Fonda, N. Y. May 5, 1847. 8vo. Albany, 1847.

McCall, John M. Address delivered before the New York State Medical Society, at Albany, Feb. 2, 1847. 8vo. Albany, 1847.

——— ———. Dissertation on Mental Manifestation, delivered before the N. Y. State Medical Society, Feb. 2, 1847. 8vo. Albany, 1847.

Blatchford, Thomas W. Two Addresses before the Medical Society of the State of New York, Feb. 1 and 2, 1848. 8vo. Albany, 1848.

Bedford, Gunning S. Introductory Lecture before the Albany Medical College, delivered 1st Oct. 1839. 8vo. Albany, 1839.

Reese, David M. Introductory Lecture before the Albany Medical College, Oct. 1, 1839. 8vo. Albany, 1839.

Olcott, Thomas W. Address delivered before the Albany Phrenological Society, April, 2, 1840. 8vo. Albany, 1840.

Purple, William D. The influence of Dress in the production of Diseases in Females; read before the Chenango County Medical Society, June 10, 1847. 8vo. Albany, 1847.

A System of Medical Ethics, adopted by the Medical Society of the State of New York. 8vo. Albany, 1846.

Wing, Joel A. An Address, delivered before the Medical Society of the State of New York, Feb. 3, 1845. 8vo. Albany, 1845.

White, Samuel. Address on Insanity, before the New York State Medical Society. 8vo. Albany.

Ely, Sumner. Annual Address, delivered before the Medical Society of the State of New York, Feb. 3, 1841. 8vo. Albany, 1841.

Beck, John B. Observations on Ergot, read before the Medical Society of the State of New York, Feb. 3, 1841. 8vo. Albany, 1841.

Hull, Laurens. Annual Address, delivered before the Medical Society of the State of New York, Feb. 1840. 8vo. Albany, 1840.

Report of a Committee of the Medical Society of the State of New York, on the subject of Medical Education. 8vo. Albany, 1840.

Blatchford, Thomas W. Observations on Equivocal Generation, prepared as evidence in a suit for Slander. 8vo. Albany, 1844.

Emmons, E. Description of some of the bones of the Zeuglodon Cetoides, of Prof. Owen. 8vo. Albany.

Fitch, Asa. Winter Insects of Eastern New York. 8vo. Albany.

——— ———. The Hessian Fly, its history, character, transformation, and habits. 8vo. Albany, 1846.

Haldeman, S. S. A description of several new and interesting Animals. 8vo. Albany, 1847.

Hammond, Wells S. Oration, delivered at Cherry Valley, July 4, 1839. 8vo. Albany, 1839.

Nairne, Charles Murray. Atheism and Pantheism; a Lecture delivered before the Young Men's Association, Albany, March 10, 1818. 8vo. Albany, 1848.

Charter, Rules, and Regulations of the Young Men's Association of the City of Albany. 8vo. Albany, 1847.

Young Men's Association, Albany. Seventh Annual Report, Feb. 3, 1840. 8vo. Albany, 1840.

——— ———. Eighth Annual Report, Feb. 1, 1841. 8vo. Albany, 1841.

Campbell, William H. A Funeral Discourse, occasioned by the death of Rev. Andrew Yates, D. D., delivered before the Classis of Schenectady, in the R. P. Dutch Church, Nov. 17, 1844. 8vo. Albany, 1844.

Huntington, E. A. A Funeral Discourse, on David Perkins Page, A. M., late Principal of the State Normal School, Albany, Jan. 9, 1848. 8vo. Albany, 1848.

Sprague, William B. An Address, delivered in the Middle Dutch Church, Albany, at the funeral of Mrs. Jane Wyckoff, wife of the Rev. J. N. Wyckoff, D. D., Jan. 31, 1847. 8vo. Albany, 1848.

Wyckoff, J. N. Christian Example; A Sermon, occasioned by the death of Christian Miller, for 60 years a member of the church in the Dutch Reformed Connection, Dec. 15, 1844. 8vo. Albany, 1844.

Porter, E. S. The Language of Affliction: A Sermon, occasioned by the death of Adeline Rider, delivered in the Reformed Dutch Church of Chatham, Feb. 1, 1846. 8vo. Albany, 1846.

Sprague, William B. An Address, delivered April 11, 1845, on the occasion of the interment of Mr. William Davis, Misses Lucinda and Anna Wood, and Miss Mary Anne Torrey, who perished in the wreck of the Steamboat Swallow, on the evening of the 7th. 8vo. Albany, 1845.

Fisher, Samuel W. The purpose of God, in the early death of the Christian, illustrated: A Sermon, occasioned by the death of Miss Mary S. Dwight, a teacher in the Albany Female Academy, March 2, 1845. 8vo. Albany, 1845.

Sprague, William B. A Sermon, delivered to the Second Presbyterian Congregation in Albany, March 4, 1838, the Sabbath after the intelligence was received of the death of Jonathan Cilley, in a duel. 8vo. Albany, 1838.

Campbell, J. N. A Discourse on the occasion of the death of James King, Esq., delivered in the First Presbyterian Church of Albany, June 27, 1841. 8vo. Albany, 1841.

Dean, Amos. An attempt to present the claims of Long Lake to the consideration of all those who are in search of good land at a low price. 8vo. Albany, 1846.

Return of the Commissioners under the acts to improve the navigation of the Albany Basin, and to extend the opening in the Albany Pier, made to the City Council, Oct. 1842. 8vo. Albany, 1842.

Some Account of Acts in relation to the Construction of the Albany Basin, with the opinion of a Member of the Albany Bar, as to the rights of parties interested. 8vo. Albany, 1848.

Constitutionality of a Bridge at Albany, as shown in the remarks of D. Buel, Jr., and Benjamin F. Butler, and the opinion of Chief Justice Savage, in the Troy Bridge Case, decided in the Supreme Court of New York, in 1836, with an abstract of the testimony. 8vo. Albany, 1845.

Documents in relation to the State Prison competition, 1843. 8vo. Albany.

Report and Speeches on the State Prison Bill, in the House of Assembly, March, 1844. 8vo. Albany, 1844.

Opinion of Judge Story, May term, 1845, U. S. Circuit Court, Woodworth and others vs. Stone. (Planing Machine Patent.)

Albany and Saratoga Plank Road. Articles of Association.

Analysis of the Testimony on the trial of Alvin Cornell for murder, and of the subsequent proof, which led to the commutation of his punishment.

III. Chronicles, Chapter 1. (A political Satire, 1847.)

Burr, C. C. Substance of an Extemporaneous Oration on Irish Repeal, delivered in Troy, Oct. 23, 1844. 8vo. Albany, 1844. —*The preceding pamphlets,* (82 *in number, and bound in* 4 *vols.*) *the gift of Joel Munsell, Albany.*

Townsend, Joseph. Some account of the British Army, under the command of General Howe, and of the Battle of Brandywine, on the memorable September 11th, 1777, &c. Accompanied by a notice of the Life of Joseph Townsend, and an Historical Sketch of the Battle. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1846.—*Gift of the Pennsylvania Hist. Society.*

Corda, A. C. Contribution to the knowledge of the different kinds of brand in the Cereals and Blight in Grain. Translated from the German, by E. G. Smith. 4to. Albany, 1847. —*Gift of Joel Munsell, Albany.*

The Literary World. Edited by C. F. Hoffman. Vol II.—*Gift of Osgood & Co., Publishers.*

NEWSPAPERS.

The Elucidator.—William Williams, Utica, Beriah B. Hotchkin, Editor.

1830—1831. 8 Jan. 1830, to 27 Dec. 1831.

The Utica Intelligencer. Ira Merrell.

1826—1827. 31 Jan. 1826, to 13 Feb. 1827. Nos. 1—55.

Utica Sentinel. William Williams.

1824—1825. 20 April, 1824, to 7 June, 1825, when the paper was united with the Columbian Gazette, and issued under the title of

Utica Sentinel & Gazette. Samuel D. Dakin & Wm. J. Bacon.

1825. 14 January to 30 May.

The Patrol. Seward & Williams, Utica.

1815. 5 Jan. 1815, to 1 Jan. 1816. 2 copies.

Utica Patriot. Merrell & Camp, for the Editor.

1814—1816. 15 Feb. 1814, to 29 March, 1816.

Utica Patriot & Patrol. Ira Merrell, for Proprietors.

1816—1821. 2 April, 1816, to 6 March, 1821.

Columbian Gazette. Thomas Walker, Utica.

1807—1815. 17 March, 1807, to 28 Feb. 1815.

1817—1821. 4 March, 1817, to 20 Feb. 1821.

Also, broken, unbound files of the

Whitestown Gazette. Wm. McLean, Utica.

1801, 1802, and 1803.

Utica Patriot. Merrell & Seward.

1803, 1804, 1805, 1806, and 1807.—*The preceding* (24 *volumes*) *the Gift of William Williams, Esq. Utica.*

New York State Mechanic. J. Munsell & Co. Edited by E. G. Squier & J. Munsell. Albany.

1841—1843. 20 Nov. 1841, to 17 June, 1843.

Mechanic's Journal. Munsell & Macfarlane, and Munn & Co., Albany.

1846—1847. 5 Dec. 1846, to 27 Nov. 1847. Vol. I.

Albany Religious Spectator. Pease & Munsell. E. H. Pease.

1844—1845. 2 Nov. 1844, to 25 Oct. 1845. Vol. I.—*The Gift of Joel Munsell, Albany.*

MANUSCRIPTS.

Miscellaneous Papers.—1. Copy of Freeman's Oath, New York, (1770.) 2. No. of Churches and Ministers in the Province of

New York, 1773; 3. Extract from a "Two Years Journal in New York;" 4. "The Battle of Wall Street;" 5. Account of the original settlement of the Isle of Pines, 1569.—*Gift of Samuel Hazard, Philadelphia.*

Thoughts on the Military Establishment proper for the United States, at the conclusion of the War, in 1783, by Timothy Pickering, Quartermaster General. Also, a plan for the establishment of a National Militia, by the same.

Correspondence of General Pickering, Col. Hay, and others, relative to collection of forage, &c., upon lands of the refugees in West Chester. 1781.—*Gift of Isaac Q. Leake, a Corresponding Member.*

BY PURCHASE AND EXCHANGE.

Chandler, Peleg W. American Criminal Trials. 2 vols. 12mo. Boston, 1844.

Kilty, John. The Land-holder's Assistant, and Land Office Guide; being an Exposition of Original Titles, as derived from the Proprietary Government, and more recently from the State of Maryland, &c., containing a brief Historical Account of the grant and settlement of the Province of Maryland. 8vo. Baltimore, 1808.

Mayo, Robert. A View of Ancient Geography and Ancient History. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1813.

Congressional Reporter, Containing the Public Documents and the Debates, of the 12th Congress. 2 vols. 8vo. Concord, N. H. 1811—1813.

Williams, Stephen W. The Genealogy and History of the Family of Williams in America, more particularly of the Descendants of Robert Williams of Roxbury. 12mo. Greenfield, 1847.

Lights, Shadows, and Reflections of Whigs and Tories; by a Country Gentleman. 12mo. Philadelphia, 1843.

Viesseux, A. The History of Switzerland from the first irruption of the Northern Tribes to the Present Time, including the wars of Independence, the Confederations of the Cantons, the Reformation by Zuinglius, Struggles during the French Revolution, &c., with a large colored Map. 8vo. London, 1846.

Lincoln, Robert W. Lives of the Presidents of the United States, with Biographical Notices of the Signers of the Declaration of

Independence; Sketches of the most remarkable events in the history of the country, &c., with 45 engravings and portraits. 8vo. New York, 1842.

Street, Alfred B. Poem, composed for the celebration of the 6th anniversary of Firemen's Lodge No. 19, I. O. O. F. (Odd Fellows Celebration Albany, March 21, 1843.)

Clinton, George W. Oration delivered at the celebration of the 6th anniversary of Firemen's Lodge No. 19, I. O. O. F. (Odd Fellows Celebration, Albany. March 21, 1843.

The Trial of John Peter Zenger, of New York, Printer, for Libel, with a Narrative of his case. To which is added the Trial of William Owen, Bookseller, near Temple Bar, for Libel, &c. 8vo. London, 1755.

American Loyalists. The Case and Claim of the American Loyalists impartially stated and considered. London, 1783. A Collection of Acts or Laws passed in the State of Massachusetts Bay, relative to the American Loyalists and their property. London, 1785. The Claim of the American Loyalists reviewed and maintained upon incontrovertible principles of law and justice. London, 1788. 8vo. [3 Tracts in 1 volume.]

Hazard, Samuel. Hazard's United States Commercial and Statistical Register. Vols. I.—VI., complete.

Elliott, Jonathan. The Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions of 1798 and '99; with Jefferson's original draught thereof. Also, Madison's Report. Calhoun's Address. Resolutions of the several States in relation to State Rights; with other Documents in support of the Jeffersonian Doctrines of '98. 8vo. Washington, 1832.

Missouri, Red River, &c. Discoveries made in exploring the, by Captains Lewis & Clarke, &c. Communicated to Congress, by Mr. Jefferson, Feb. 19, 1806. 8vo. New York, 1806.

[Auchmooty, Samuel.] The Letters of Papinian, in which the conduct, present state, and prospects of the American Congress, are examined. 12mo. New York, 1779.

Memoirs of the Life of Simon Lord Frazer, of Lovat. 8vo. London, 1747.

[French Claims in North America.] A Memorial, containing a summary view of facts, with their authorities, in answer to the Observations sent by the English Minister to the Courts of Europe. Translated from the French. 8vo. New York, 1757.

Hunt's Albany Commercial Directory for 1848–9. 12mo. Albany, 1848.

Munsell, Joel. The Every Day Book of History and Chronology; embracing the anniversaries of memorable persons and events in every period and state of the world, from the creation to the present time. 2 vols. 12mo. Albany, 1843.

Neilson, Charles. An original, compiled and corrected account of Burgoyne's Campaign, and the memorable Battles of Bemis's Heights, Sept. 19, and Oct. 7, 1777, from the most authentic sources of information; including many interesting incidents connected with the same; and a Map of the Battle Ground. 12mo. Albany, 1844.

Report of the Debates and Proceedings of the Convention for the Revision of the Constitution of the State of New York, 1846. [Atlas Edition.] 8vo. Albany, 1846.

The American Literary Magazine. By T. Dwight Sprague. Vol. I. 8vo. Albany, 1847.

The American Quarterly Journal of Agriculture and Science, Conducted by Drs. E. Emmons and A. J. Prime. (Vols. I. and II.) E. Emmons and A. Osborn, (Vol. III.) E. Emmons, A. Osborn, and O. C. Gardner, (Vol. IV.) E. Emmons and A. Osborn, (Vols. V. and VI.) 8vo. Albany, 1845—1847.

Sutherland, Alexander. Achievements of the Knights of Malta. 2 vols. 12mo. Philadelphia, 1846.

Mr. Gibbs, Chairman of the Executive Committee, made a report on the nominations which had been referred to that committee, recommending the following candidates, who were thereupon elected, viz:—

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Hon. John A. Dix,	New York.
Hon. George P. Marsh,	Vermont.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

Joshua V. H. Clark,	Manlius, N. Y.
Joel Munsell,	Albany, "
George Brinley, Jr.,	Hartford, Conn.

RESIDENT MEMBERS.

William H. Burr,	Thomas J. Crowen,
William S. Jewett,	J. Hancock Douglass.

Mr. Gibbs read a letter addressed to him by Mr. James R. Hitchcock, of New York, enclosing an extract of a letter from Don Alonzo Manuel Peon, of Merida, Yucatan, announcing the donation of a box of antiquities from that country. The box being detained in the custom-house, the letter was, on motion, referred to the Foreign Corresponding Secretary, with instructions suitably to acknowledge the donation when received.

Various nominations were made to the Society, and severally referred to the Executive Committee.

Mr. E. George Squier, then read a paper on "The Historical and Mythological Traditions of the Algonquin Tribes of Indians, with a translation of the '*Walum Olum*,' or Bark Record, of the Linni-Lenape."

On the conclusion of the paper, Mr. W. Chauncey offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be presented to Mr. Squier, for his very interesting paper just read, and that a copy be requested for the archives of the Society.

Mr. J. B. Varnum, Jr., read a memorial addressed to the Congress of the United States, petitioning for the purchase of the estate at Mount Vernon, formerly the residence of Washington. His object, he remarked, was not to solicit any action of the Society on the subject, but with the view of obtaining the signatures of such of the members present, as approved of the object of the memorial.

The Society then, on motion, adjourned, to meet again on the first Tuesday of October next.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

STATED MEETING, OCTOBER 3, 1848.

The Hon. LUTHER BRADISH, First Vice President, in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting, in June, were read by Mr. WARNER, the Recording Secretary, and approved.

Mr. BARTLETT, the Foreign Corresponding Secretary, presented and read a communication, which he had recently received from John Romeyn Brodhead, Esq., with an enclosure, as follows:

U. S. LEGATION, LONDON, AUG. 17, 1848.

DEAR SIR:

I send you herewith, an extract of a letter I have received from Mr. Campbell, the Deputy Librarian of the Royal Library at the Hague, enclosing a copy of an ancient Dutch Manuscript relating to the History of New Netherland; which I beg leave, in Mr. Campbell's behalf, to present to the New York Historical Society.

I have endeavored to make as faithful a translation as possible of this interesting paper, which I also enclose, together with some explanatory notes; and I venture to suggest to the committee charged with the subject, the propriety of including it in the volume of our Collections now in preparation.

With great regard, I am, dear sir, very faithfully, yours,

J. ROMEYN BRODHEAD.

J. R. BARTLETT, ESQ., *For. Cor. Sec. N. Y. Hist. Soc.*

[Copy.] ROYAL LIBRARY, THE HAGUE,
June 10, 1848.

J. ROMEYN BRODHEAD, ESQ., &c. &c.
U. S. Legation, London.

DEAR SIR:

Allow me, as a proof of my lasting and growing sympathies for the American Union, and in it for New York, (our old friend Nieuw Nederlandt,) to send you the enclosed statement of its situation at a brief period after it became our West India Colony.

The priority of its date over *Vander Donck's* description, may give to it an historical value, which doubtless will induce you to judge it worthy of being joined to so many more valuable documents gathered by you in Europe.

The person to whom the writer, *Isaack de Rasieres*, addresses his note, *Mr. Blommaert*, was a member of the West India Company, for Amsterdam; and from the whole I judge *de Rasieres* was an inferior officer of that same Company sent over in "*het Wapen van Amsterdam*," in order to keep his chiefs well informed of the real state of the Colony. Unhappily, from the *Cahier* (of 16 pages in folio) the two interior ones (pages 7—10) are wanting, and vainly I tried to find them out wherever they might be. The piece itself being an original was joined with others, most of them regarding our West India Colonies in Brazil, in a parcel newly bought for this Royal Library; thus explaining the fact that it was not shown to you during your investigations at the Hague.

Be so kind, sir, as to offer this copy to the Historical Society of New York in my name, not quite unknown to them, since you kindly mentioned it in your Report of October, 1841, about the historical investigations performed by you in Netherlands. I am sure I could not choose a more worthy interpreter of my sentiments, nor one more agreeable to the Society than the former Historical Agent of New York. This piece will increase the number of the Documents in the period between 1614

and 1640, the scarcity of which you deplored in your Report.

From the general dispersion of our West India Colonial Archives, it can hardly fail to happen, I think, and especially considering my actual position as 2d Librarian, that from time to time new documents about New Netherland will occur to my attention, on public or private sale; and I hardly need to assure you, sir, that I will be attentive to their appearance, and if possible lay hand on them, and make them follow in original or copy, *de Rasieres'* statement.

Accept, dear sir, the assurances of my perfect consideration, and believe me as ever,

Your truly obedient servant,

[Signed.] M. F. A. G. CAMPBELL.

The Domestic Corresponding Secretary, Mr. Beekman, submitted his Report of correspondence since the last meeting. In answer to a letter of George Tappen of Kingston, Esopus, dated July 5, 1848, requesting the return to him of certain MS. copies offered by him to the Society, and which they declined purchasing, he stated that the said copies had been delivered to the order of Mr. Tappen. A letter from the Hon. Falkland H. Martin, Secretary of State, in Missouri, dated Aug. 23, 1848, had been received, enclosing a copy of a resolution passed by the General Assembly of that State, February 25, 1845, granting copies of legislative documents to this Society. The letter had been referred to the Librarian.

The Domestic Corresponding Secretary further stated, that information having reached the chairman of the Executive Committee of the existence of a valuable collection of American Antiquities, which had been in possession of Dr. Bureau, of Gallipolis, Ohio, proper inquiries had been made, and there was just reason to believe that the collection might be obtained for the Society.

The Librarian, Mr. Moore, then announced the addi-

tions which had been made to the Library and Cabinet, since June, as follows :—

BY DONATION.

An Universal History from the earliest account of Time, compiled from original authors; and illustrated with maps, cuts, notes, &c. with a General Index to the whole. 21 vols. 8vo. London, 1747—1754.—*Gift of Rev. John F. Schroeder, D. D.*

Schroeder, John Frederick. Memorial of Bishop Hobart. A collection of Sermons on his death, with a Memoir of his Life and Writings. 12mo. New York, 1831.—*From the Author.*

——— ———. Discourse pronounced before the New York Horticultural Society, at the annual celebration, 26th August, 1828. 8vo. New York, 3d edit. 1838.—*From the Author.*

——— ———. Religion and the State; or Christianity, the Safeguard of Civil Liberty; an Oration, delivered at St. Paul's College, College Point, 5th July, 1841. 8vo. Flushing, 1841. —*From the Author.*

New York. Transactions of the State Agricultural Society, with an abstract of proceedings of the County Agricultural Societies, and of the American Institute. Vols. VI. and VII. 1846 and 1847. 8vo.—*From B. P. Johnson, Esq., Corresponding Secretary N. Y. State Ag. Society.*

Bolton, Robert, Jr. History of the County of Westchester, from its first settlement to the present time. 2 vols. 8vo. New York, 1848.—*Gift of the Author.*

Wheeler, Henry G. History of Congress, Biographical and Political: comprising Memoirs of members of the Congress of the United States, &c. 8vo. New York, 1848.—*Gift of Rev. R. W. Griswold.*

Bartlett, John Russell. Dictionary of Americanisms. A Glossary of Words and Phrases, usually regarded as peculiar to the United States. 8vo. New York, 1848.—*Gift of the Author.*

Hebbe, G. C. An Universal History, in a series of Letters: being a complete and impartial narrative of the most remarkable events of all nations, from the earliest period to the present time; forming a complete History of the World. 8vo. Vol. I. New York, 1848.—*Gift of the Author.*

Jones, J. Seawell. Memorials of North Carolina. 8vo. New York, 1838. *Gift of Mrs. E. F. Ellet.*

Patent Office. Annual Report of the Commissioner of Patents, for 1847.—*Gift of Hon. F. A. Tallmadge.*

Valentine, D. T. Manual of the Corporation of the City of New York, for the year 1848.—*Gift of the Author.*

Kilbourn, Payne Kenyon. A History and Genealogy of the Kilbourn Family, in the United States and Canada, from the year 1635 to the present time. 8vo. Hartford, 1845.—*From the Author.*

——— ———. The Skeptic, and other Poems. 12mo. Hartford, 1843.—*From the Author.*

Jones, Isaac. The Mandate of God, for Israel's advancement; a Sermon delivered in Litchfield, &c., 5th Nov. 1845, being 100 years since the formation of the Episcopal Church in Litchfield, Conn.—8vo. Litchfield, 1846.—*Gift of the Author.*

France. Journées de Juin, 1848. Récit complet des Evènements. Séances de l'Assemblée Nationale. 12mo. New York, 1848. —*Gift of John Inman, Esq.*

Baird, Robert. The Noblest Freedom; or the Influence of Christianity upon Civil Liberty—a Discourse addressed to the alumni of Jefferson College, Pa. 8vo. New York, 1848.—*Gift of John Inman, Esq.*

Massachusetts. Documents published by the Secretary of State, 1848.

———. Legislative Documents: Senate Nos. 1—143; House of Representatives, Nos. 1—219, for the year 1848.—*From the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.*

The Journal of the Indian Archipelago and Eastern Asia. A monthly periodical, published at Singapore. Nos. 1—11, July, 1847, to May, 1848. 8vo.—*From P. L. Simmonds, London.*

James, William. An Inquiry into the merit of the Principal Actions between Great Britain and the United States, comprising an account of all British and American ships of war, reciprocally captured and destroyed, since the 18th June, 1812. 8vo. Halifax, 1816.—*From Alexander J. Cotheal.*

Free Soil Convention at Buffalo, 1848. Dyer's Phonographic Report of Proceedings at. 8vo. Buffalo, 1848.—*From Mrs. A. D. Hunt.*

The Spirit of Missions. Vol. XI. for 1846.—*From the Same.*

Winthrop, Robert C. Oration pronounced on the occasion of laying the corner stone of the National Monument to the memory

of Washington, with an Introduction and an Appendix. 8vo. Washington, 1848.—*From the Author.*

Joslin, Benjamin F. A Paper on Irradiation. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1831.

——— ———. Discourse before the N. Y. Alpha of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, 23d July, 1833. 8vo. Schenectady, 1833.

——— ———. On the Physiology of Respiration and Chemistry of the Blood, applied to Epidemic Cholera. 8vo. New York, 1835.

——— ———. Observations on the Tails of Halley's Comet, as they appeared at Union College, Oct. 1835. 8vo.

——— ———. Meteorological Observations and Essays. 8vo. Albany. 1836.

——— ———. Physiological Explanations of the Beauty of Form. 8vo. Albany, 1837.

——— ———. On the Atmospheric Origin of the Aurora and its Connexion with the Crystallization of Snow. 8vo. New Haven, 1838.

——— ———. Address before the New York Homœpathic Physicians' Society, 3d Dec. 1845. 8vo.

——— ———. Report on the Use of Chemical and Mechanical Means, and large Doses, in connexion with Homœpathic Practice. 8vo. New York, 1848.

——— ———. On the limit of Subdivision by Trituration and Solution. 8vo.

——— ———. On Erect Vision from an inverted image. 8vo.

——— ———. Paralysis of the Face, successfully treated with Strychnine. 8vo.

——— ———. On the Meteorology of Hemorrhage. 8vo.

——— ———. Discourse on Homœpathy, read before the Homœpathic Society of New York, 9th March, 1847. 8vo.—*The preceding pamphlets,* (14 *in number,*) *the gift of the Author.*

Connecticut. Public and Private Acts of the General Assembly, passed at the May session, 1848. 2 vols. 8vo. New Haven, 1848.—*From the State of Connecticut.*

New York. Annual Reports of the Regents of the University, for the years 1838, 1840, 1841, 1842, and 1848.—*From T. Romeyn Beck, Secretary of the Board of Regents, Albany.*

New York Institution for the Deaf and Dumb. Acts and By-Laws. 8vo. 1831. Also, edition of 1845.

New York Institution for the Deaf and Dumb. 19th and 22d Annual Reports of the Directors. 8vo. 1838, 1841.

Peet, Harvey P. Address delivered at Raleigh, N. C. on the occasion of laying the corner stone of the North Carolina Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb. 8vo. New York, 1848.—*Gift of Prof. O. W. Morris.*

New York. The fourteen published volumes of the Natural History of the State. 4to.

——— ———. Geological Map of the State of, published in 1842.

——— ———. Annual Report of the Regents of the University of, for 1848.

——— ———. Legislative Journals and Documents, for the years 1846 and 1847. 27 vols. 8vo.

——— ———. Convention Journals and Documents, 1846. 3 vols. 8vo.

——— ———. Laws of the State of, passed at the 69th and 70th sessions. 3 vols. 8vo.

——— ———. Census of the State of, for 1845. Folio.—*Gift of the State of New York.*

New York City. Proceedings of the Board of Aldermen. Vol. 33. Documents of ditto, vols. 10, 11, 12. Proceedings of the Common Council, vols. 5 to 14, inclusive.—*Gift of the Common Council.*

[Robinson, Mrs.] Geschichte der Colonisation von Neu-England. Bon den ersten Niederlassungen dafelbst im Jahre 1607 bis zur Einpehrung der Provinzialverfassung von Massachusetts, im Jahre, 1692. Nach den Duellen bearbeitet von Talvj. 8vo. Leipzig, 1847.—*Gift of the Author.*

Varnum, Joseph B. Jr. The Seat of Government of the United States. A review of the discussions in Congress and elsewhere, on the site and plans of the Federal City; with a Sketch of its present position and prospects. Also, a notice of the Smithsonian Institution. 8vo. New York, 1848. (6 copies.)—*Gift of the Author.*

Adams, John Quincy. Addresses in the Congress of the United States, and Funeral Solemnities on the death of. 8vo. Washington, 1848.—*Gift of S. B. Beach, P. O. Dept. Washington, D. C.*

Lord, John C. A Discourse on the death of the Hon. Samuel Wilkeson, of Buffalo. 8vo. Buffalo, 1848.—*From the Author.*

Annals of the Missouri Historical and Philosophical Society. No. I. 8vo. Jefferson City, Mo. 1848. (4 copies.)—*From the Society.*

Journal of the Concord Society of Natural History. No. 1. 8vo. Concord, N. H. 1848.—*From Hon. Wm. Prescott.*

Prescott, William. Catalogue of the Marine, Fluviatile, and Terrestrial Shells of Massachusetts.—*From the Author.*

[Jarvis, Russell.] Facts and Arguments against the election of General Cass. By an Anti-Abolitionist. 8vo. New York, 1848.—*From the Publishers.*

Francis, John W. An Inaugural Address, delivered before the New York Academy of Medicine, 2d Feb. 1848. 8vo. New York.—*From the Author.*

New Hampshire. Reports of the Board of Visitors and Trustees, and of the Superintendent of the N. H. Asylum for the Insane, June session, 1848. 8vo. Concord, N. H.—*From Dr. Andrew McFarland.*

Annals of the Cincinnati Historical Society, No. 1. 8vo. Cincinnati, 1845.—*From Joseph C. Butler, Cincinnati.*

Cincinnati. 13th Annual Report of the Young Men's Mercantile Library Association, 1848. 8vo.—*From the same.*

———. Gov. Bebb's Anniversary Address before the Young Men's Mercantile Library Association, 1848.—*From the same.*

Richardson, Judge J. S. Proceedings of the House of Representatives of South Carolina against, on a charge of bodily and mental infirmity. 8vo. Charleston, 1848.—*From Prof. Wm. H. Ellet, of Columbia, S. C.*

New York. Report of the Physicians of the Lunatic Asylum, at Blackwell's Island, for 1848.—*From Dr. James Macdonald.*

North, Edward. An Address delivered before the Sons of Temperance, in Palmer's Grove, near Frankfort, N. Y., 4th July, 1848. 8vo. Utica, 1848.—*From the Author.*

Buffalo. Twelfth Report of the Young Men's Association. 8vo. Buffalo, 1848.—*From the Association.*

Leisler, Jacob. Remarks on the Tragedy of. 8vo. New York, 1848.—*From the Publisher.*

An Account of a Journey to Niagara, Montreal and Quebec, in 1766. 8vo. New York, 1846.—*Gift of William S. Jewett.*

Potter, Alonzo. Primary Address to the Convention of the Diocess of Pennsylvania, 20th May, 1846. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1846.—*From the Author.*

Potter, Alonzo. Address to the 64th Convention of the Diocese of Penn. 17th May, 1848. 8vo. Philad.—*From the Author.*

American Bible Society. Thirty-second Annual Report. 11th May, 1848. 8vo. New York, 1848.—*From the Society.*

Fremont, John C. Geographical Memoir upon Upper California, in illustration of his Map of Oregon and Upper California. 8vo. Washington, 1848. Also, a number of Speeches in pamphlet form, and Congressional Documents.—*From Hon. John A. Dix.*

Wislizenus, A. Memoir of a Tour to Northern Mexico, connected with Col. Doniphan's Expedition, in 1846 and 1847. 8vo. Washington, 1848. Also, several other Congressional Documents and Speeches.—*From Hon. D. S. Dickinson.*

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New England. Southern Traveller's Visit to. A Poem. 8vo. Boston, 1830.

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Clap, Thomas. The Annals or History of Yale College, in New Haven, in the Colony of Connecticut, from the first founding thereof in the year 1700, to the year 1766. 8vo. New Haven, 1766.—*From Israel Russell, Esq.*

New York University. Annual Report of the Regents, for 1848. 8vo.—*From Prosper M. Wetmore.*

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Saratoga and Warren Railroad. Proceedings of the meeting of the inhabitants of Saratoga and Warren counties, at Cornish, Sept. 25, 1846. 8vo. Saratoga Springs, 1846.

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Wisner, William C. Prelacy and Parity discussed in several lectures, comprising a review of Rev. Lloyd Windsor's argument on the ministerial commission. 12mo. New York, 1844.

Davis, Maj. P. M. An official and full detail of the great battle of New Orleans, which closed the late war with Great Britain and her dependencies. 12mo. New York, 1836.

Channing, William E. Self Culture, an address introductory to the Franklin Lectures, delivered at Boston, 1838. Boston, 1839.

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Kirk, Edward N. An oration on the occasion of the National

Fast, delivered before the Academy of Sacred Music, on Friday evening, May 14, 1841. 8vo. New York, 1841.

Barnard, Daniel D. A discourse on the Life, Services, and Character of Stephen Van Rensselaer; delivered before the Albany Institute, April 15, 1839, with an historical sketch of the Colony and Manor of Rensselaerwyck, in an appendix.

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1825. 3d January to 30th Dec.

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1824. 13th July, to 27th December.
[Bound in volume with N. Y. Statesman, 1824.]
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New York Evening Post. M. Burnham & Co.
1824. 23d August to 31st December.
[In volume with Commercial Advertiser for 1824.]
1825. 3d January to 6th April.

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1824. 9th August to 31st December.

Boston Courier. J. T. Buckingham.
1825. 3d August to 31st December.

New York Commercial Advertiser.
1824. 11th November, to 31st December.
1825. 4th January to 28th May.
New York American. Charles King.
1824. 14th August to 30th December.
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Albany Argus. Leake & Croswell.
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[In volume with Albany Argus, for 1824.]
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The preceding newspapers, bound in 11 *volumes, the gift of Charles S. Francis, bookseller.*
New York Daily Express. Brooks & Townsend.
1845—1846. 25th November, 1845, to 31st December, 1846. Bound in 2vols.
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1848. A file of the 38th vol.
Gift of Thomas D. Lowther.
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Gift of Israel Russell, Esq.
The Union. Washington.
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Taylor, John. Tyranny Unmasked. 8vo. Washington City, 1822.

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Adams, Hannah. A Dictionary of all Religions and Religious Denominations. 8vo. New York and Boston, 1817.

Mason, George. Supplement to Johnson's English Dictionary: of which the palpable errors are attempted to be rectified, and its material omissions supplied. 8vo. New York, 1803.

Parkhurst, John. A Greek and English Lexicon to the New Testament, &c. 4th edit. 8vo. London, 1804.

Ernesti, John Augustus. Improved edition of Hederic's Greek and Latin Lexicon. 8vo. Leipsic, 1796.

Lempriere, J. Bibliotheca Classica; or a Dictionary of all the principal Names and Terms relating to the Geography, Topography, History, Literature and Mythology of Antiquity, and of the Ancients. (Da Ponte and Ogilby's edit.) 8vo. New York, 1833.

Donnegan, James. New Greek and English Lexicon. (Patton's edition.) 8vo. Boston, 1839.

Phillips, Edward. The New World of Words; or Universal English Dictionary. Folio. London, 1706.

Wilson, Thomas, and John Bagwell. Complete Christian Dictionary of all the Words mentioned in the Holy Scriptures. With a six-fold addition, by Andrew Symson. Folio. London. 1661.

Dictionnaire de L'Academie Francoise, revu, corrige et augmenté par L'Academie Elle-Même. Cinquieme edition. 2 vols. 4to. Paris. 1799.

Miege, Guy. A New Dictionary, French and English, with another, English and French, &c. 4to. London, 1677.

Boyer, A. Dictionnaire Royal Francois-Anglois et Anglois-Francois. 2 vols. 4to. Lyons, 1768.

Duponceau, Peter S. Brief View of the Constitution of the United States, addressed to the Law Academy of Philadelphia. 12mo. Philadelphia, 1834.

[Paulding, James K.] The Diverting History of John Bull and Brother Jonathan. By Hector Bull-us. 18mo. New York, 1812.

Mills, Robert. Statistics of South Carolina, including a View of its natural, civil, and military history, general and particular. 8vo. Charleston, 1826.

North American Review. From 1815 to 1844. 60 volumes. 8vo.

MANUSCRIPT.

Copy of a Letter from Simeon De Witt, to Rev. Jedediah Morse, dated 7th May, 1808, on the Variation of the Needle.—*From Lieut. J. M. Gilliss, U. S. Navy.*

FOR THE CABINET.

Two silver and 2 copper German Coins, and one English Coin, of copper.—*From Lieut. J. M. Gilliss, U. S. N.*

Indian Relics. No. 1. A Spear Head, from the site of the Indian village of *Weec-quas-guck*, "the place of the bark kettle," near Tarrytown. No. 2. Same, from Throckmorton's Neck. Nos. 3, 4, 5. Same, from the Hills of Greenburgh. (These Hills formed a portion of the Indian territory of *Wikagyl*. An Indian Axe, from *Nappeckamock*, (Yonkers.) Also, specimens of Pottery, and the remains of a skull, found in an Indian mound in West Chester.—*Gift of Robert Bolton, Jr.*

Specimens of Iron Ore, from St. Anthony's Nose, in the Highlands; of Crystal, from Greenburgh; and Garnets, from the banks of the Croton river.—*Gift of the same.*

The following letter from Dr. N. S. Jarvis, Surgeon U. S. A., was then presented and read:

New York, Sept. 28, 1848.

Sir: During a residence of several years in the North and Southwest frontier, I amused myself in making a collection of the dresses, arms, and domestic implements of the various tribes of Indians inhabiting those distant regions.

My connection with the army, and necessary absence from home, has never enabled me to arrange the same, and the greater part have remained packed up for years.

With a view of gratifying the curiosity as well as adding to the information of such members as take an interest in every thing illustrative of the habits and customs of these people, (now rapidly disappearing on the approach of the white man, and wasting away from the combined effects of war, famine and disease,) I have taken the liberty of depositing my collection in the museum of the Society.

In addition to these, I have also deposited some Mexican arms and other articles picked up on the battle fields of Palo Alto, Resaca, and Monterey, at the close of those battles.

I remain, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
N. S. JARVIS, Surgeon U. S. A.

Hon. Luther Bradish,
First Vice President N. Y. Hist. Soc.

COLLECTION DEPOSITED BY DR. N. S. JARVIS.

MEXICAN ARMS, &c.

No. 1. Mexican Escopette, found on the battle field at Monterey, Sept. 21, 1846.

No. 2. Cavalry Sabre, broken by a cannon ball at the battle of Monterey, Sept. 21, 1846, found on the field, (belonging to a Lancier.)

No. 3. Mexican Lance, broken in a charge of Lanciers at the battle of Monterey, Sept. 21, 1846.

No. 4. Cap Plates and Ornaments, with Nos. of different Mexican regiments, from the battle fields of Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma and Monterey.

No. 5. Cavalry Equipments, battle of Monterey.

No. 6. Shoulder Knots of a Mexican Artillerist and Lancier, &c., battle of Monterey, Sept. 21, 1846.

No. 7. Mexican Sabre, (Toledo,) formerly belonging to a Captain of Cavalry, (Monterey.)

No. 8. Copper cannon balls fired during the battle of Monterey.

No. 9. Copper or composition shell fired during the siege of Fort Brown, May 6, 1846.

No. 10. Ancient copper vessel, (Mexican.)

No. 11. Cabrista, or halter, of colored hair.

No. 12. Basket made of the fibres of the Maguey plant, by Mexican prisoners at Saltillo.

No. 13. Painted wooden ware of the Mexicans, made at Linares.

No. 14. Five Copper grape shot from Monterey, Mexican.

No. 15. 5 boxes containing specimens of Guadalajara Ware, or Pottery.

INDIAN CURIOSITIES.

No. 1. Sioux Chief's Pipe, Fort Snelling, Upper Miss.

No. 2. Pipe presented by Petit Corbeau, or Little Crow, principal Chief of the Lower Sioux, 1834, Fort Snelling, Upper Miss.

No. 3. Pipe presented by Black Dog, a Sioux chief, Fort Snelling, 1835.

No. 4. A chief's Pipe, presented by Wanitou, principal chief of the Yanckton Sioux, 1835.

No. 5. Pipe presented by Blewahcondepah, or Big Thunder, son of Little Crow, a Sioux chief, 1835.

No. 6. Caddo bow, Camp Worth, La., 1836, made of Bois d' arc wood.

No. 7. Seminole Bow, Tampa Bay, Fa.

No. 8. Sioux Bow and Arrows.

No. 9. Sac Bow, Rock island, 1833.

No. 10. Yanckton Bow and Quiver, presented by Wanitou, chief of the Yanckton Sioux, 1835.

Nos. 11 and 12. Indian written Music and Looking Glass, (Sioux.)

No. 13. Indian Pack Saddle, (Sioux.)

No. 14. 3 Indian Tomtons or Drums, (Sioux and Chippeway.)

No. 15. Yanckton Sioux Shield.

No. 16. Chippeway Snow shoes.
No. 17. 3 Vessels, (Caddo Indians.)
No. 18. Bundles of Yanckton Arrows.
No. 19. Sissiton Sioux Bow, made of sinew and bone of the Elk.
No. 20. Menominee Pipe.
No. 21. Winnebago Pipe.
No. 22. Ornamented War Chief's Pipe, (Sioux.)
No. 23. Ornamented War chief's Pipe, (Sissiton Sioux.)
Nos. 24 and 25. Indian Pipe-stems, (Upper Miss.)
No. 26. Tomahawk Pipe, (Sioux.)
Nos. 27, 28, and 29. Indian Flutes, (Sioux and Chippeway.)
No. 30. Indian Medicine-man's wand, (Sioux.)
Nos. 31 and 32. Indian carved Canes, (Sioux and Caddo.)
No. 33. War Club (Sac.)
No. 34. War Club, (Menominee.)
No. 35. Chief's War Club, (Sioux,) with a history of his warlike exploits.
No. 36. War Club, (Chippeway.)
No. 37. War Club, (Sioux,) made of red Steatite, from Coli du Prairie.
No. 38. War Club, (Sandwich Islands.)
No. 39. War Paddle, (Sandwich Islands.)
No. 40. Chief's Looking Glass, (Sioux.)
Nos. 41 and 42. Ball Clubs, (Chippeway.)
No. 43. Drumstick, (Sioux.)
No. 44. Indian Necklace, made of the claws of the grizzly bear.
No. 45. Indian Buffalo Knife, made by a Sioux.
Nos. 46 and 47. Indian Scalping Knives.
No. 48. Seminole Indian Hunting Knife.
No. 49. Indian Medicine-man's rattle or guerd, (Sioux.)
No. 50. Indian Medicine-man's rattle, of deers' hoofs, (Sioux.)
No. 51. Indian Chief's Saddle, (Camanche.)
No. 52. Model of Indian Cradle, (Sioux.)
No. 53. Model of Chippeway Bark Canoe.
No. 54. Model of Sioux Canoe and Paddles.
No. 55. Indian Powder Flask, of Buffalo horn.
No. 56. War Head Dress of Eagle feathers, presented by Wanitou, chief of Yanckton Sioux.
No. 57. 9 pairs of Moccasins, made of buffalo and deer skin, (Sioux.)
No. 58. Head Dress of Ceremony, (Yanckton Sioux.)

No. 59. Indian Pouch or Medicine Bag, made of the skin and claws of the white eagle, (Sioux.)
No. 60. 5 Indian Tobacco Pouches, (Seminole, Sioux and Chippeway.)
No. 61. Cap of Totahwahcondepa, or the great Medicine Man of the Sioux.
No. 62. 3 pairs of Indian Mittens, (Sioux and Chippeway.)
No. 63. 3 Indian Medicine Pouches of otter skin, (Sioux.)
No. 64. Quiver of wolf skin, (Sioux.)
No. 65. War Eagle Head Dress, and Leggins of the skink skin; of a Sioux warrior.
No. 66. Yanckton Squaw Dress of buffalo skin.
No. 67. Wild horse skin Dress of a Sissiton Sioux, ornamented with scalp locks.
No. 68. Sioux chief's Dress, (shirt and leggins.)
No. 69. Sioux chief's Dress, ornamented with scalp locks, (shirt and leggins.)
No. 70. War Dress, presented by Wanitou, chief of the Yanckton Sioux.
No. 71. War Dress of a Sioux chief.
No. 72. Sissiton Sioux chief's Dress, with scalp locks.
No. 73. 7 Indian Pouches or Medicine Bags, of otter skins, (ornamented.)
No. 74. Quiver of ornamented otter skin.
No. 75. 5 Bowls of Pipes, (Sioux and Chippeway.)
No. 76. Yanckton Bow and Quiver with Arrows.
No. 77. Sioux male Dress, complete.
No. 78. Sioux female Dress, complete.
No. 79. Ornamented Pouch, (Sioux.)
No. 80. Indian Belt, (Cherokee.)
No. 81. Indian Pouch, (Cherokee.)
No. 82. Head Dress of a Sioux chief.
No. 84. Indian Garters, of beads, (Chippeway.)
No. 85. Ornamented Knife Sheath, (Chippeway.)
No. 86. Chief's Pipe-stem, (Sioux.)
No. 87. Moccasins, (Chippeway.)
No. 90. 3 Fish-hooks, made of the pearl shell, (Sandwich Islands.)
No. 91. 2 Indian Arrow Heads, of stone, from an Indian tumulus, or mound, in Florida.
No. 92. Horn of the Buffalo Bull.
No. 93. Spunk, or touchwood, used by the Sioux in procuring fire.

On motion of Mr. Beekman,

Resolved, That the thanks of the New York Historical Society be, and hereby are, tendered to Doctor Jarvis, U. S. A., for the very valuable collection of Indian curiosities, &c. deposited for safe keeping with this Society.

The Librarian, Mr. Moore, informed the Society, that during the summer recess, he had completed the compilation of the *Newspaper Annals of the Mexican War*, announced some months since, as in preparation, which he now presented to the Society, handsomely bound in ten quarto volumes. This work, the result of much labor, embraces complete accounts of the war, as they appeared from time to time in the newspapers, from the first movements of the American troops towards the Rio Grande to the final consummation of peace. It has been most carefully made up of cuttings from the newspapers of the day, and arranged in chronological order.

The newspapers from which the cuttings were principally made, are those published at New Orleans, Washington, and New York; and an effort has been made to embody all the various accounts from the seat of war, as well of the actors in, as of the witnesses of the various events; with full descriptions of the movements of the armies, of all the several battles, skirmishes, and incidents of the war, notices of the countries traversed by our armies, and descriptions of the battle fields, towns and cities captured by the American troops; together with personal and local anecdotes of the several campaigns; to which are added numerous plans and diagrams, illustrating the history of the war.

The idea of the preparation of such a work, was suggested by Gen. Prosper M. Wetmore, late chairman of the Executive Committee, and the newspapers used for the work, were almost exclusively contributed by him, and by George Gibbs, Esq., the present chairman of that committee.

These volumes, with the official despatches published

by the War Department, upon the call of Congress, will furnish a full and complete history, or materials for the history, of the War with Mexico.

Mr. Gibbs, chairman of the Executive Committee, made a report on the nominations which had been referred to that committee, recommending the following candidates, who were thereupon elected, viz:

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

S. Wells Williams,	Canton, China.
Dr. Edwin C. Bidwell,	Keene, Coshocton Co., O.
Rev. Th. H. Gallaudet,	Hartford, Conn.
Robert Caparn,	Newark, Nottinghamshire, Eng.

RESIDENT MEMBERS.

Thomas Spofford,	J. Leander Starr,
Benson J. Lossing,	James D. Whelpley,
Richard E. Mount,	James N. McElligott.

Various nominations were made to the Society, and severally referred to the Executive Committee.

Mr. Bartlett then read a translation of the Letter of *Isaack de Rasiere* to *Mr. Blommaert*, written in 1627, giving an account of New Netherland, forwarded to Mr. Brodhead at London, by Mr. Campbell, the Deputy Librarian of the Royal Library at the Hague, and by Mr. Brodhead transmitted to the Society.*

[*Note.*—As the letter of *De Rasiere*, with Mr. Brodhead's notes, will be published at length in the second volume (now in press) of the second series of the Society's Transactions, a brief summary of its contents is all that is at present necessary. The deficiency of authentic documents relating to the early history of New Netherland, has often been noticed. There are earlier accounts of the island—those of Wassenaer, in his Historische Verhael, 1623 and 1624, and of De Laet, in 1625,—

* See Letters of Messrs. Brodhead and Campbell, p. 133, *ante*.

but De Rasiere's letter furnishes the earliest description we have of the colony of New Netherland and its neighborhood from an eye witness. De Rasiere is mentioned by the historian of New Netherland,* as the book-keeper to the Director Minuit, in 1624, and as provincial secretary, second in authority to the Director himself. In Gov. Bradford's Letter Book, (I Mass. Coll. vol. iii.) is preserved a correspondence between the authorities of New Plymouth and New Netherland, in which De Rasiere figures as the agent of the latter. He was sent as ambassador to New Plymouth in 1627, where he was received with distinction, "honorably attended with a noise of trumpeters"—at the "first meeting in the solitude of the New World between friendly colonists of two allied European nations." De Rasiere, whom Governor Bradford mentions as "a man of fair and genteel behavior," afterwards became entangled in provincial troubles, his papers were seized, probably to the loss of the modern historian. He returned to Holland and drew upon his memory for this letter to his friend Samuel Blommaert, a leading director of the West India Company.

This is the history of the document, and so far as is known, of the writer. At the outset he furnishes an interesting topographical survey of the bay, harbor, and surrounding islands. This is followed by the usual Indian descriptions, with some peculiarities, of a tribe on the island called the Wappenos, who were tall, of an orange color, like the Brazilians, inveterate haters, full of hereditary revenges, so fond of freedom that they could not be brought to work, who hunted in winter and fished in spring; were great lovers of fish, especially of an erotic white salmon; strung cockle-shell, *seawan*, for money, and were as particular about it as if they dealt with pearls; they shuffled and dealt rushes, and called the game *semeca*, gambling away what clothes they wore till they

* Dr. O'Callaghan.

went off naked; when they were dressed they had on deer skin, or bear skin, or a seal skin, or covered themselves with turkey feathers, or Dutch duffel cloth, which was a blanket by night, a coat by day; the men were loose with the women, who were of middle stature, with long black hair, black eyes, and fine eyebrows, and smeared their orange colored bodies with grease, which did not improve their flavor; their marriages were based on settlements of seawan, and the bride for six weeks of separation bewailed her virginity, which they called "Collatismarrenitten;" she sat all the while with a blanket over her head looking at no one and no one looking at her. For agriculture the women in March broke up the ground, and in April planted maize, and in May they set out beans to grow upon the stalks of the corn; they sucked the low stocks for sugar-cane, and made *sappaen* out of the grain, and some they put dried in baskets and buried in the ground, and went off with the men in hunting parties in October, coming back in December "as fat as moles." For their discipline when the women were unfaithful they were flogged, cropped, and driven from the house, but the children followed them, for they were fond mothers. When the husband was unfaithful, the wife brought him before the council, drew off his right shoe and left stocking, uncovered his nakedness and gave him a kick behind, and had the laws been generally administered the council would have had constant employment. For politics they had a chief, *Sackima*, whom they chose by election.

The writer also gives an interesting account of New Plymouth, from which we can only add the following:

"New Plymouth lies on the slope of a hill stretching east towards the sea-coast, with a broad street about a cannon shot of 800 [yards] long, leading down the hill; with a [street] crossing in the middle, northwards to the rivulet, and southwards to the land. The houses are constructed of hewn planks, with gardens also enclosed

behind and at the sides with hewn planks, so that their houses and court-yards are arranged in very good order, with a stockade against a sudden attack; and at the ends of the streets there are three wooden gates. In the cent e, on the cross street, stands the Governor's house, befo e which is a square enclosure, upon which four patereros [steen-stucken] are mounted, so as to flank along the streets. Upon the hill they have a large square house, with a flat roof, made of thick sawn plank, staged with oak beams, upon the top of which they have six cannons, which shoot iron balls of four or five pounds, and command the surrounding country. The lower part they use for their church, where they preach on Sundays and the usual holidays. They assemble by beat of drum, each with his musket or firelock, in front of the captain's door; they have their cloaks on, and place themselves in order three abreast, and are led by a serjeant without beat of drum.

"Behind comes the Governor, in a long robe; beside him, on the right hand, comes the preacher with his cloak on; and, on the left hand, the captain, with his side arms and cloak on, and with a small cane in his hand,—and so they march in good order, and each sets his arms down near him. Thus they are constantly on their guard, night and day.

"Their government is after the English form. The Governor has his council, which is chosen every year by the entire community, by election or prolongation of term. In inheritances they place all the children in one degree, only the eldest son has an acknowledgment for his seniority of birth. They have made stringent laws and ordinances upon the subject of fornication and adultery, which laws they maintain and enforce very strictly, indeed, even among the tribes which live amongst them. They [the English] speak very angrily when they hear from the savages that we should live so barbarously in these respects, and without punishment. Their farms are

not so good as ours, because they are more stony, and consequently not so suitable for the plough. They apportion their land according as each has means to contribute to the Eighteen Thousand Guilders which they have promised to those who had sent them out; whereby they have their freedom without rendering an account to any one; only if the King should choose to send a Governor-General, they would be obliged to acknowledge him as sovereign chief. The maize seed which they do not require for their own use is delivered to the Governor at three guilders a bushel, who, in his turn, sends it in sloops to the north, for the trade in skins among the savages. They reckon one bushel of maize against one pound of beaver skin: in the first place a division is made according to what each has contributed, and they are credited for the amount in the account of what each has to contribute yearly towards the reduction of his obligation; then, with the remainder, they purchase what next they require, and which the Governor takes care to provide every year. They have better means of living than ourselves, because they have the fish so abundant before their doors. There are also many birds, such as geese, herons, and cranes, and other small-legged birds, which are in great abundance there in the winter."]

The reading of the paper being concluded, on motion of the Rev. Dr. De Witt, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be presented to Dr. M. F. A. G. Campbell, Deputy Librarian of the Royal Library at the Hague, for his kindness in obtaining, and to John R. Brodhead, Esq. for forwarding, the interesting MS. just read, and with the hope that they will continue their researches.

Mr. Bartlett also read a communication from Mr. E. G. Squier, respecting a proposed survey of the ancient monuments in Western New York. He states that the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institute will appropriate $100 towards the survey of these ancient monuments, provided

the Historical Society will contribute an equal amount. The Secretary will also permit the Society to use the plates and other illustrations which may accompany the Reports of the Survey, should the Society see fit to embody them in its Transactions.

It is estimated that there are at least one hundred enclosures, clearly belonging to the same grand system with those of the Mississippi Valley, and it is proposed to make accurate surveys of the more important of these, and to fix the localities and give brief accounts of all the others. It is also proposed to make excavations wherever it may be supposed it will be attended with any important results.

Prof. O. W. Morris, and Mr. Wm. Chauncey, made some remarks on the importance of the proposed surveys; after which, on motion, the subject was referred to the Executive Committee, with power.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

STATED MEETING, NOVEMBER 7, 1848.

The Hon. LUTHER BRADISH, First Vice President, in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read by Mr. WARNER, Recording Secretary, and approved.

Mr. WETMORE introduced to the presiding officer His Excellency, M. POUSSIN, the French Minister, who had accepted an invitation to be present at the meeting of the Society.

Mr. BRADISH, in the following terms, then introduced M. Poussin to the Society:

GENTLEMEN OF THE SOCIETY:

It is with peculiar pleasure that I announce to you that the Society is this evening honored by the presence of His Excellency Major Poussin, the first Minister sent from the French Republic to the Republic of the United States. In our distinguished visitor, on this occasion, we have not only the highly accomplished and worthy representative of his own country, but in him we may also claim a fellow citizen; for it will be recollected by the members of this Society that Major Poussin was for many years in the service of the United States, in intimate association with our own excellent and deeply loved General Bernard. During this long period of distinguished and faithful ser-

vice in our country, he became minutely acquainted with our interests and our institutions; and evinced, on all occasions, a marked friendliness for the former, as he did a deep and cordial sympathy with the latter. His return to us, therefore, under present circumstances, is peculiarly gratifying to our personal feelings; while his appointment and arrival as the first Minister from the young French Republic to our country, constitutes an historical fact as full of present interest, as it is of future hope. In it we see a sure pledge of the cordial and ever brightening relations between the two great Republics.

But I may not enlarge. I have, therefore, now the honor of presenting to the Society Major Poussin; and I ask you, Gentlemen, to rise and unite with me, as I know you will most cordially, in welcoming among us this distinguished representative of his own country, and our own cherished fellow citizen.

M. Poussin thereupon rose, and addressed the Society, in the following terms:

Gentlemen—I am happy in meeting, in the city of Jay, and Hamilton, and Morris, a Society so distinguished, and presided over by one of the most illustrious of those men who by birth were countrymen of mine, and for their love of liberty are countrymen of yours; I mean the great Gallatin, who came here in youth to assist your fathers, and with them was *born again* into the glorious nationality which is the admiration and hope of the world. And it is a pleasure to be surrounded by a society of freemen, organized chiefly for the purpose of preserving all the facts that relate to the birth and nurture of Liberty, and her noble children, the institutions of the American Republic. Your labors in this respect command the interest and good wishes of mankind.

Gentlemen—I rejoice at finding myself once more in the midst of this great community, whose high privilege

it is to give to the world the most satisfactory evidences of the practicability of a large nation governing itself. Yes, gentlemen, the incontestable and incontested merit of your democratic institutions, the proof of their admirable influence on society at large, as on the individual, is that they are founded on the equal diffusion of knowledge throughout all ranks: on the commercial, agricultural or manufacturing, mechanical or operative classes. That is the true touchstone of your democratic fabric; and you should be proud of it.

I contest the saying of certain writers, who are sanguine in ascribing to the privileges of your favored land, or to the one origin of your race, or to the peculiar structure of your nerves or muscles, your successful and prosperous march as a nation, under the glorious banner of liberty. All these exterior elements are the invention of our numerous enemies, who watch with some apprehension for their long enjoyed privileges, the ascendant march of democratic principles throughout the world. I reject them all as unfounded in truth, and because they have for their object to discourage the human race of making lawful efforts to raise itself in the scale of self estimation and dignity.

God, gentlemen, has not made liberty for one set of people, or for a class of men. All men have been created, and are born, to be free, and to enjoy equal rights all over the world.

Your *favored land!* they say. Surely, most assuredly, may they say *favored;* but not more so, permit me to say, in the point of fruitfulness or adaptation to all the arts, and to satisfy all wants of man, than any other part of the two great continents. Look at your own doors, Mexico or Central America; farther south, the rich basin of the Amazon, or the Oronoco. Cast your eyes on that all beautiful spot of Europe, occupied by my glorious country, and inhabited by my laborious and spirited countrymen; cross the Pyrenees or the Alps, range down

the valleys of Guadelquiver, of the Rhine or of the Po, and tell me whether the Almighty has been more bountiful to the one people than to the other?

Do not let us mingle the name of God in the repartition of goods here below, solely depending upon the WILL of the people.

The *origin* of your race! But how does it differ from any other? Do I not see among the thirty brilliant stars of your constellation whole territories settled by men of as great diversity of origin as old Europe can present? Do I not read the daily proofs of it in the special organs entrusted with their local or personal interests: German, French, Spanish, Italian, Scandinavian or English newspapers? And, in fine, if I turn the leaves of your history, do I not find in all those glorious records, names classed with that of the model of men, "the great Washington," and which my national and official character will not allow me to recall here? Your *nerves* and *muscles!* Since when, then, will this new distinction be started by stolid minds which are always devising a reason, false or true, for what they cannot comprehend? Indeed, this is the last blow aimed at classing people: those who can be free and those who cannot. Why not say at once: among privileged ones, who will not work, and those doomed to work?

My nature, gentlemen, revolts at this extreme of self infatuation; and I must say that I can, on no occasion, tolerate the idea of the mensuration of man's capacity for this or that avocation, by the actual development of his nerves and muscles.

Now, gentlemen, permit me to touch a subject of vital importance in the present circumstances, in which the whole world is carried on by the example of my noble country: and to arrive at my end, allow me to retrace, in very few words, the influence which the PRESS rightly exercises in your own country.

In your happy social organization, where those who

cannot read or write form a very small minority, the newspapers have become the ordinary channel of all free discussion, referred to by every one, and supported by all.

It is not given to one paper or to some papers only to lead public opinion; it is the opinion of the people that gives life, on the contrary, to such or such a paper; but as every one can express his opinion, it follows that on each important question, the writers or editors of papers form instinctively a kind of great congress or meeting charged with discussing its merit or demerit; and thus they prepare the concentrated action of the great fractional portions of the community on the particular point at stake.

This is, gentlemen, we must acknowledge, a great privilege enjoyed by the press in this enlightened society, and one which must tend to give it more and more a high and dignified character, if it will respond to its great responsibility.

The more enlightened a society is, the more important it is for the conductors of the press to be dignified by intelligence as by personal character; and I am proud to say, gentlemen, such is the tendency of all public organs in the United States.

They are all aware that if your system of *Common Schools*, or general education, is the great basis on which rest your democratic institutions, it is likewise on the great trading principles, and the coëxistence of a free and enlightened press, that your astonishing prosperity rests. Now then, gentlemen, for the point, the most at my heart, and I am sure at yours:

If the press exercises such an influence on your great and prosperous community as I have very imperfectly suggested, of how much more importance cannot it be to the success of OUR great cause, by becoming for our uncertain steps in the path of rational liberty in Europe, a true beacon, a guide, a cheering star.

The labor of the press in this happy land of yours is almost accomplished; you have but to keep up the sacred

fire where elements abound; but on my side of the water, on our great eastern continent, everything is to be achieved.

How is this to be accomplished? By attacks, by threats, by declamations for or against this or that form? No, gentlemen; nothing is to be gained by levelling daily attacks against men or measures indiscriminately, except to excite passions, hatreds or prejudices.

A higher order of assistance, indeed of brotherly duty, is devolved on you: I allude to the actual moral and practical aid that the American Press can give us in the transformation now going on of monarchical into democratical institutions.

It is by countenancing our daily efforts, in presenting our people with the more parallel features of your own history with our present struggling state, that you can advance the area of rational general liberty; and not by assaulting, and rendering yourselves the distant echoes of prejudiced minds or of preconcerted enemies to the new institutions.

It is by allowing largely for the immense difficulties which cross yet our path, and cheering our partial success in overthrowing them or turning them round, that you can impart new abilities to our men, to our society.

We cannot dissimulate a fact: "The light which now strikes old Europe as a solar ray, comes from the West." That light has already produced a first and marvellous effect: everybody has measured by it the shadow of his neighbor on the land of his birth, and has not seen any difference in the projection. Continue then to keep up the intensity of your light, and I am certain our people will succeed in reading the pages of the Book of Truth in the same light as you.

Mr. Bartlett, the Foreign Corresponding Secretary, read a letter from Dr. Peter Wilson, (Wa-o-wa-wâ-na-onk,) a distinguished chief of the Seneca nation, and a corres-

ponding member of the Society, presenting a Spelling Book, printed in the language of the Seneca Indians, with English Definitions.

Mr. Bartlett also read portions of a private letter from Mr. Squier, stating that he had just completed the survey of an interesting aboriginal work in Montgomery county. In the same region were some very curious ancient works, but they were so nearly obliterated that it would be extremely difficult, and in some cases impossible, to trace out their original forms. Two of them he was about to survey in company with Mr. Clark of Manlius, a gentleman who manifested great interest in these ancient works, and who had already collected much historical matter relating to Onondaga county. Mr. Squier found much interest shown by various gentlemen with whom he had come in contact in the explorations in which he was engaged. Several ancient works were pointed out to him in Jefferson county, whither he was to proceed after exploring and surveying those in Montgomery and Onondaga counties.

Mr. B. stated that several gentlemen of distinction and influence, anxious to aid Mr. Squier in the laudable work in which he was engaged, had furnished him with such letters of introduction to persons in Western New York, as would obtain for him all the aid and attention which he might require to complete his examination of our antiquities before the winter set in.

The Domestic Corresponding Secretary, Mr. Beekman, reported, that since the last meeting of the Society, he had received letters—

1. From Edward Naret, of Gallipolis, Ohio, dated October 16, 1848, in reply to a letter addressed by the Domestic Corresponding Secretary to Dr. Bureau, on the 2d October, with reference to the collection of American Antiquities in his possession. Mr. Naret informs that Dr. Bureau is dead, but promises to apply to the trustees of

his estate for the articles mentioned, and if obtained, to forward them to the Society.

2. From Dr. T. Romeyn Beck, one of the Regents of the University, dated October 30, 1848, in reply to a letter addressed by the Chairman of the Executive Committee and the Corresponding Secretary to the Hon. Mr. Rankin, and requesting any duplicates of Public Documents at their disposal, for the Library of this Society. Dr. Beck states that the request has been presented to the Secretary of State, who will cheerfully furnish any such documents that he may have, either of this or other States, or of the United States.

3. From Rev. Thomas H. Gallaudet, of Hartford, Connecticut, acknowledging the receipt of the notification of his election as a Corresponding Member.

4. From the New York Academy of Medicine, inviting the officers and members of the Historical Society to attend the celebration of their Second Anniversary, on Wednesday, November 8, at the Church of the Crucifixion, at 7 o'clock, P. M.; where the oration is to be delivered by James R. Manley, M. D.

On motion of Mr. Gibbs, it was resolved, that the invitation of the New York Academy of Medicine be accepted.

The Librarian, Mr. Moore, announced the additions made to the Library and Cabinet since the last meeting, as follows:

BY DONATION.

Guicciardini, Lewis. Description de touts les Pays-Bas, autrement appellez la Germanie Inferieure, ou Basse Allemagne. Et traduit d'Italien en langue Françoise, par F. de Belleforest. Fol. Amsterdam, 1609.—*Gift of Isaac Spencer.*

Plain Facts: being an examination into the rights of the Indian Nations of America, to their respective countries; and a vindication of the grant from the Six United Nations of Indians, to the Proprietors of Indiana, against the decision of the Legislature of Virginia; together with authentic documents, proving that

the Territory westward of the Alleghany mountain never belonged to Virginia. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1781.—*Gift of the same.*

Report of the Debates in both Houses of Parliament, on Monday, 17th February, and Friday, 21st February, 1783, on the Articles of Peace. 8vo. London, 1783.—*From the same.*

Evans, Jonathan. A Journal of the Life, Travels, and Religious Labors of William Savery, late of Philadelphia, a minister of the Gospel of Christ, in the Society of Friends. 12mo. London, 1844.—*From the same.*

Description of the Genesee Country, its rapidly progressive population and improvements: in a series of Letters from a Gentleman to his Friend. 4to. Albany, 1798.—*From the same.*

Steward, James. History of the Discovery of America, of the Landing of our Forefathers, at Plymouth, and of their most remarkable engagements with the Indians in New England, &c. To which is annexed the Defeat of Generals Braddock, Harmer, and St. Clair, by the Indians at the westward. 8vo. Brooklyn, L. I.—*From the same.*

The American Quarterly Register and Magazine, conducted by James Stryker. Vol. I. 8vo. Phil. 1848.—*Gift of the Editor.*

South Carolina. Acts of the General Assembly of the State of, passed in Dec 1844. 8vo. Columbia, 1845.—*Gift of the State.*

Earle, Pliny. History, Description and Statistics of the Bloomingdale Asylum for the Insane. 8vo. New York, 1848.—*Gift of the Author.*

Hall, James. The West; its soil, surface and productions. 12mo. Cincinnati, 1848.—*Gift of E. H. Davis.*

M'Clung, John A. Sketches of Western Adventure: containing an Account of the most interesting incidents connected with the settlement of the West, from 1755 to 1794. 12mo. Dayton, 1844.—*Gift of the same.*

McDonald, John. Biographical Sketches of Generals Nathaniel Massie and Duncan McArthur, Capt. William Wells, and Gen. Simon Kenton, who were early settlers in the western country. 12mo. Cincinnati, 1838.—*Gift of the same.*

Cass, Lewis, and William O. Butler. Sketches of. 8vo. New York, 1848.—*Gift of the Publishers.*

Philadelphia. Twenty-eighth Annual Report of the Controllers of the Public Schools. 8vo. Phil. 1846.—*Gift of Isaac Spencer.*

Robinson, Edward. On the Depression of the Dead Sea and of the Jordan Valley. 8vo. New York, 1848.—*From the Author.*

[Kellogg, Edward.] Currency: the Evil and the Remedy. 6th edition. 8vo. New York, 1846.—*Gift of Dr. B. F. Bowers.*

Butler, James Davie. Sermon, at Norwich, Vt. Feb. 22, 1848, during the obsequies of Truman Ransom, colonel of the ninth regiment. 8vo. Hanover, 1848.—*Gift of the Author.*

Bowditch, N. I. The Ether Controversy. Vindication of the Hospital Report of 1848. 8vo. Boston, 1848.—*From the Author.*

Trust, Joseph William. Report of Proceedings, at the City Hall, New York, in 1833, in the case of Joseph Wilfred Parkins. 8vo. London, 1833.—*Gift of Dr. M. L. Taft.*

Ross, David. Notes on the Nobility: No. 1. Sketch of the History of the House of Russell; No. 2. Sketch of the History of the House of Stanley, and the House of Sefton. 12mo. London, 1848.—*From the Author.*

Ellesmere, Earl of. Guide to Northern Archæology, by the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries, of Copenhagen, edited for the use of English readers. 8vo. London, 1848.—*Gift of Hon. Edward Everett, Cambridge, Mass.*

Rapport de la Commission d' Enquête sur l' Insurrection qui a éclaté dans la Journée du 23 Juin, et sur les événemens du 15 Mai. [1848.] Fol. Paris, 1848.—*From J. R. Brodhead, London.*

Emmons, Nathaniel. A Discourse delivered on the Annual Fast in Massachusetts, April 9, 1801. 8vo. Hartford, 1801.

Williams, Nathan. Order and Harmony in the Church of Christ, agreeable to God's will: Illustrated in a sermon delivered in Tolland, on the Public Fast, April 17, 1793. 8vo. Hartford, 1793.

Lathrop, Joseph. The Constancy and Uniformity of the Divine Government, illustrated and improved in a Sermon preached in Springfield, April 7, 1803, which was a day of public fasting and prayer. 8vo. Springfield, 1803.

Dana, James. The Wisdom of observing the footsteps of Providence: a Sermon preached at Wethersfield on the Annual Thanksgiving, Nov. 28, 1805.

Mack, Solomon. Narrative of the Life of. 12mo. Windsor.—*The preceding* (5 *pamphlets*) *the gift of H. R. Stiles.*

Jomard, M. Extrait d'un Mémoire sur l'uniformité a introduire dans les Notations Géographiques. 8vo. Paris, 1847.—*From the Author.*

Oyster Bay. Narrative of Proceedings of a meeting of the inhabitants, June 22, 1848, respecting changes in name of, &c. 8vo. 1848.

Seneca Language. A spelling book in the Seneca Language; with English definitions. 12mo. Buffalo Creek Reservation, Mission Press, 1842.—*From Dr. Peter Wilson.*

A collection of printed General Orders, issued by the Commander-in-Chief of the American Army, in Mexico.—*Presented by George Gibbs.*

FOR THE CABINET.

Coronation Medal of Queen Victoria. 1838.—*Presented by A. Ogden Butler.*

Portrait, in frame, of Jaques Cartier, the discoverer of Canada, in 1535. Lithographed in Paris, from an original portrait preserved at his birth-place, St. Malo.—*Presented by Pliny Miles.*

BY PURCHASE AND EXCHANGE.

White, Campbell P. Report on Gold and Silver Coins, made to the House of Representatives in Congress, in 1834. 8vo. Washington, 1834.

Willard, Simon, Jr. The Columbian Union: consisting of General and Particular Explanations of Government, and the Columbian Constitution. 12mo. Hudson, 1814.

Campbell, John W. Biographical Sketches, and Literary Remains. 8vo. Columbus, O. 1838.

Chipman, Nathaniel. Principles of Government: a Treatise on Free Institutions, including the Constitution of the United States. 8vo. Burlington, 1833.

The Debtor and Creditor's Vade Mecum. A commentary on the Insolvent Laws of New York. 18mo. New York, 1810.

Stratton, Charles S. (Tom Thumb.) Sketch of the Life of. 12mo. New York, 1847.

Chicago Convention. Proceedings of the Harbor and River Convention, held at Chicago, July 5, 1847. 12mo. Chicago, 1847.

Mr. Moore also read the following letter from Doctor Jarvis:

New York, Nov. 4, 1848.

Sir: Herewith I enclose you a catalogue of Aztec and Toltec Idols, Sacred Vessels, Urns, &c., dug up in the neighborhood of the City of Mexico and the great Pyra-

mid of Cholula, from the collection of Emillio Voss, Esq., of Mexico. I wish to deposit them with the Indian Collection previously sent to the Museum of the Society.

Yours, respectfully,

N. S. JARVIS.

Mr. Moore, Librarian.

[CATALOGUE ENCLOSED.]

Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8—Aztec Idols.
Nos. 9, 10, 11, 12—Sacred Urns and Vases.

Mr. Gibbs, chairman of the Executive Committee, made a report on the nominations which had been referred to that committee, recommending the following candidates, who were thereupon elected, viz :

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

Asa Fitch, M. D.,	Salem, N. Y.
Payne K. Kilbourn,	Litchfield, Conn.
Hon. Ashbel Smith,	Galveston, Texas.
Daniel J. Toll, M. D.,	Schenectady, N. Y.
Dr. Ed. Hamilton Davis,	Chillicothe, O.
Rev. Smith Pyne, D. D.,	Washington, D. C.

RESIDENT MEMBERS.

George Y. Gilbert,	Rev. John F. Schroeder, D.D.,
Joseph T. Gilbert, Jr.,	William C. Gilman,
John S. Tappan,	Oscar W. Sturtevant,
Sam'l B. Schieffelin,	Ralph Clark,
Jacob R. Le Roy,	A. Edwards Suffern,
Edward Dennis,	William Cogswell,

R. Cary Long.

Mr. Gibbs read a letter received from J. Hammond Trumbull, Esq., Assistant Secretary of the State of Connecticut, communicating sundry extracts from the ancient colony records, respecting the family of Governor Stuyvesant, &c.

On motion, it was resolved, that the communication from Mr. Trumbull be referred to Mr. J. R. Bartlett, to investigate the matters referred to in said letter, and make report thereon at a future meeting.

Mr. Gibbs further reported that the Executive Committee had, agreeably to the By-Laws, made provision for the celebration of the Forty-fourth Anniversary of the Society on the 21st instant, and that Mr. Charles King will deliver the address, which will be on the History of the New York Chamber of Commerce, with notices of some of its most distinguished members.

Mr. Gibbs also reported, that under the resolution referred to them at the last meeting of the Society, the Executive Committee had appointed Mr. Jno. R. Bartlett, and Mr. George H. Moore, a special committee to raise the sum required to carry out the proposals of Mr. Squier, relative to the examination of the Ancient Earth Works in the western part of New York.

Mr. Bartlett, from the sub-committee aforesaid, made a verbal report that, in consideration of the Society having no immediate funds which could be appropriated for the purpose of defraying the expenses incurred in the proposed investigations by Mr. Squier, an effort had been made to collect the amount required by subscription among the members, which he was happy to say was nearly completed. He therefore moved the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Treasurer of the Society be requested to transmit to Mr. E. G. Squier, the sum of one hundred dollars, whenever that amount shall have been raised by subscription, towards defraying the expenses incurred in surveying the ancient aboriginal remains in the State of New York.

Mr. Chauncey, from the committee appointed for the purpose of procuring funds, for the erection of a suitable fire-proof building for the use of the Society, made report, that the committee was now organised, and pre-

pared to enter upon the duties assigned them; that several thousand dollars were already pledged to the purpose; and that the committee would shortly make personal application to members of the Society, for their subscription in behalf of this important object.

Mr. Chauncey was followed by the Rev. Dr. De Witt and Gen. P. M. Wetmore, in earnest and eloquent addresses in behalf of the proposed measure.

The following resolution, offered by Mr. Beekman, was then read, and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the New York Historical Society heartily approve of the resolution of their committee to proceed at once with the business of procuring the means to secure the erection of a fire-proof building for the use of this Society.

Sundry nominations of new members were then made, and referred, as usual, to the Executive Committee.

Mr. Wetmore offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That M. Poussin be requested to deposit in the archives of the Society, a copy of his eloquent address delivered this evening.

Mr. John Jay then read a "Memoir of the Early Colonization of New Netherland," prepared by Mr. John Romeyn Brodhead, of London.

At the conclusion of which, the Rev. Dr. De Witt made some remarks upon the value of the document which had just been read, as furnishing some particulars, hitherto unknown in this country, respecting the settlements made in New Netherland prior to 1632. He concluded by offering the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Foreign Corresponding Secretary be instructed to transmit the thanks of the Society to John Romeyn Brodhead, Esq., for the interesting and valuable paper which has just been read.

[☞ In a note by Mr. Brodhead, to the Letter of *De Rasiere*, read at the October meeting of the Society, he refers to "*Wassenaer's Historische Verhael*," a rare work, hitherto unknown to American readers, which he had recently been so fortunate as to discover in London. It was published at Amsterdam, in 1621—1632. From this work, Mr. Brodhead has compiled, in chronological order, such portions as relate to the early colonization of New Netherland. The memoir will be published in the forthcoming volume of the Society's Collections, and the following notice is all that is necessary to be given here:—

"In 1623, a company of thirty families, of Walloons, came over in the ship "New Netherland." On making the Hudson, they found a Frenchman lying there who contemplated setting up the arms of the King of France. He received no encouragement in this idea, and a yacht, the "Mackerel," was detailed to convey him to sea. This pertinacious Frenchman, lingering at the Narrows, meditated a similar movement on the South River, but the inhabitants compelled him to put to sea. The Frenchman having disappeared, the New Netherland ascends the river some forty-four Dutch miles, which we are informed, are equal to about one hundred and thirty-two English miles, and found "Fort Orange" under the government of the Hon. Daniel Van Krieckebeeck, which was a name too long for the pressing duties of an infant colony, so he was called Beeck, and "he performed his duties so satisfactorily that he received a vote of thanks." Forts were building, corn was planting, yachts were moving about. The little vessel, the Mackerel, which piloted the Frenchman out, had been some six months crossing the Atlantic, lounging at the "Wild Islands" in a very unprofitable fishing. She returned home, but never again reached the New Netherlands, being captured, full of supplies, on her outward trip to the Colony, and carried as a prize into Dunkirk.

The ship New Netherland took back a cargo of furs to the Company in Holland, which produced over 28,000 guilders. Ship loads of cattle, stallions, mares, bulls, cows, swine and sheep, were sent to the Colony, commendable Dutch care and humanity being employed in their transport. The beasts found their way to the island of Manhattan, and throve mightily. In 1625, the Colony numbered two hundred souls. Various administrations succeeded each other. A fort was staked out; the company's counting-house was of stone, and the neighboring buildings chiefly constructed of the bark of trees, ranged along the river to the number of thirty. Two anomalous officials, Kranck-besoeckers (comforters of the sick) read texts of scripture and the creed on Sundays in default of a clergyman, while Francis Moelemacker was employed building a horse mill with a spacious loft for a congregation, and the people were thinking of a tower in which to hang certain bells brought from Porto Rico. All were busy farming and trading. An Indian skirmish comes off in 1626, in the vicinity of Fort Orange, Commander Krieckebeeck with six men taking the part of the Maikans against the Maquas, a skirmish of which we hardly care to distinguish, by a simple movement of the lips, the names of the combatants, but which nevertheless cost the reliable Krieckebeeck his life, and one of his comrades, Tymen Bowensen, the dishonor of a cannibal feast to the savages, he being literally roasted and eaten by them. The families left the fort to the garrison of men, while the women strengthened the settlement at Manhattan. One Barentsen ruled in the stead of Krieckebeeck, a great trader among the Indians, moving among Sickenares, Sinnecox, Wapenox, Maquaes, and Maikans. The last two continued to fight till a remnant of the latter was driven to the neighborhood of the Varsche, or Connecticut River. Such was the state of things chronicled by Wassenaer."—*Lit. World.*]

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

FORTY-FOURTH ANNIVERSARY MEETING, NOV. 21, 1848.

Hon. Luther Bradish, First Vice President, in the chair.

The reading of the Minutes of the last meeting was deferred.

Mr. Gibbs, chairman of the Executive Committee, presented and read a report from that committee upon the nominations referred to them, recommending the following candidates, who were thereupon elected:

HONORARY MEMBER.

His Excellency William Tell Poussin, Minister from the French Republic, to the United States.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

Jean de Nottbeck,	St. Petersburg, Russia.
George S. Riley,	Rochester, N. Y.
James S. Bush,	Do.
David Davidson,	London, England.
William Wood,	Canandaigua, N. Y.
Dr. M. F. A. G. Campbell,	The Hague.

RESIDENT MEMBERS.

George Bruce,	Charles L. Vose,
Frederick G. Carnes,	Edward Peet,
Samuel P. Richards,	Edward C. Delavan,
John Austin Stevens, Jr.,	Dr. William Young,
Charles A. Peabody,	Lewis M. Morrison.

Several nominations of new members were made, and referred to the Executive Committee.

Mr. Gibbs then offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Society do now adjourn to the Chapel of the University, to listen to the Anniversary Discourse, to be delivered by Mr. Charles King.

The Society then proceeded to the Chapel, where Mr. King delivered a discourse on "The History of the New York Chamber of Commerce, with notices of some of its most distinguished members."

Upon the conclusion of the Discourse, Mr. James B. Murray offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be tendered to Charles King, Esquire, for the interesting Discourse delivered by him this evening, and that he be requested to furnish a copy for publication in the Proceedings of the Society.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

STATED MEETING, DECEMBER 5, 1848.

The Hon. LUTHER BRADISH, First Vice President, in the chair.

The Minutes of the two last meetings were read by the Recording Secretary, Mr. WARNER, and approved.

Mr. BARTLETT, the Foreign Corresponding Secretary, read a letter from John Romeyn Brodhead, Esq., of the American Legation, London, transmitting a note on De Laet's account of New Netherland, particularly the portions of his work which had been translated and published by the Society; and also an extract from the "*Nieuwe Wereldt*," chap. xi., second edition, published in 1630, at Leyden. The note and translation relate to the purchase of the Island of Manhattan from the Indians, which had not been made when the first edition, in 1625, was published.

The communication from Mr. Brodhead was, on motion, referred to the Executive Committee.

Mr. BARTLETT further stated that Mr. E. G. Squier had kept him informed of the progress he was making in surveying and exploring the Ancient Earthworks in Western New York. He had been very successful in tracing such as had not been obliterated entirely, and would in a few days return to the city with his drawings. Mr. Bartlett stated that some interesting antiquities had already been received, which, with the drawings, and a particular

account of Mr. Squier's explorations, would be laid before the Society at its next meeting, by that gentleman in person.

Mr. Beekman, the Domestic Corresponding Secretary, submitted his report of correspondence since the last stated meeting, consisting of letters and enclosures from the following persons, viz:

1. From E. C. Bidwell, M. D., of Keene, Ohio, dated November 17, 1848, acknowledging the notice of his election as a Corresponding Member.

2. From James I. Barclay, Esq., of Philadelphia, dated July 29, 1848, (received Nov. 27,) communicating a number of Reports of the Pennsylvania Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, and Reports of the House of Refuge of the City of Philadelphia.

3. From William Wood, Esq., of Canandaigua, dated Nov. 30, 1848, acknowledging his election as a Corresponding Member, and enclosing cuttings from the Mechanics' Gazette, of New York, of 26th June, 1822, which contain, in the published premiums offered for articles to be exhibited at the "Apprentices Library in Chamber street," the very nucleus of the Mechanics' Fair, now so important in New York. Mr. Wood, who was at that time a resident of the city, is believed to have been the first mover in the establishment of the Fair, and contributed a number of the first premiums.

4. From the Rev. George Copway, (Kah-ge-ga-gah-bowh,) a chief of the Chippewa nation, dated Nov. 13, 1848, transmitting a copy of his paper read before the Society, in March, "On the Wars in Canada West, by the Ojibways and Iroquois."

5. From the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, transmitting a copy of the first volume of the "Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge," and enclosing a Programme of the Organization of the Institution, and Circulars requesting the co-operation of this Society.

The Domestic Corresponding Secretary further stated,

that he had addressed a letter to Mr. Edward Naret, of Gallipolis, O., dated December 5, 1848, on the subject of the Indian relics in his possession.

On motion, the communication from the Smithsonian Institution, was referred to the Executive Committee.

The Chair announced that he had received from His Excellency M. Poussin, a copy of his address before the Society, at their November meeting, which had been furnished for their archives in compliance with a vote of the Society.

The Librarian, Mr. Moore, then announced the additions which had been made to the Library, since the last meeting, as follows:

BY DONATION.

Emory, W. H. Notes of a Military Reconnoissance, from Fort Leavenworth, in Missouri, to San Diego, in California, including parts of the Arkansas, Del Norte and Gila rivers. With a map and numerous engravings. 8vo. Washington, 1848.—*From the Author.*

American Oriental Society. Journal of—No. 3, of vol. I. 8vo. Boston, 1847.—*From the Society.*

Lowell. Correspondence between Nathan Appleton and John A. Lowell, in relation to the early history of the City of Lowell. 8vo. Boston, 1848.—*From Nathan Appleton, Esq., of Boston.*

Toll, Daniel J. A Narrative embracing the history of two or three of the first settlers and their families, of Schenectady. Interspersed with a few anecdotal eccentricities and antiquities; together with a description of the winter evening visits, recreations and suppers, and of the tea-parties of olden times, with a few strictures on the change of times. 8vo. Schenectady, 1847.—*From James W. Beekman.*

Elliott, Jared L. Sermon occasioned by the death of Lieut. J. A. Underwood and Mid. Wilkes Henry, of the U. S. Navy, delivered on board the ship Vincennes before the officers and men of the exploring expedition, August 10, 1840. 8vo. Honolulu, Mission Press, 1840.—*From the Author.*

Adams, Josiah. The Genealogy of the Descendants of Richard Haven, of Lynn, Mass. 8vo. Boston, 1843.—*From the Librarian.*

Vermilya, Lucius H. A year and a half in Mexico, and at the battles of Cerro Gordo, Churubusco and Mexico. 12mo. Prattsville, 1848.—*From Hon. Zadock Pratt, of Prattsville.*

Vattemare, Alexandre. Report on the subject of International Exchanges. 8vo. Washington, 1848.—*From the Hon. J. A. Dix.*

New York. Transactions of the State Agricultural Society for 1847. 8vo. Albany, 1848.—*From Erastus C. Benedict, Esq.*

American Almanac, for the years 1835, 1836, and 1837.—*From the same.*

New York City. Proceedings of the Boards of Aldermen and Assistants, from May, 1847, to May, 1848. Vol. xv. 8vo. N. York, 1848.—*From the Common Council.*

Hart, Joseph C. The Romance of Yachting: Voyage the First. 12mo. New York, 1848.—*From the Author.*

Adams, John Quincy. Poems of Religion and Society. 18mo. New York, 1848.—*From the Rev. R. W. Griswold.*

Allen, Rev. L. L. Pencilings of Scenes upon the Rio Grande; originally published in the St. Louis American. 12mo. New York, 1848.

Osborn, Selleck. An Oration delivered at Newburgh, in the State of New York, on the 4th of July, 1798. 12mo.

Baldwin, George R. Report showing the cost and income of a Railroad, as surveyed from Toledo, O., to Chicago, Ill., incorporated as the Buffalo and Mississippi Railroad. 8vo. Toledo, 1847.

Johns, Evan. The Lethargy of Impenitence Exposed, in a Sermon, preached at Long Meadows, on the 13th April, 1815, the day appointed for a National Thanksgiving. 8vo. Springfield, 1815.

Falconer, Thomas. The Oregon Question; or a statement of the British claims to the Oregon Territory, in opposition to the pretensions of the Government of the United States of America, with a chronological table and a map of the Territory. 8vo. New York, 1845.

French Claims. View of the claims of American Citizens which were (reserved against the French Republic by the Convention of 30th September, 1800, and which were afterwards) assumed by the United States, in the Louisiana Convention of 30th April, 1803. By a Citizen of Baltimore. 8vo. Baltimore, 1829.

Jervis, John B. Report on the Hudson River Railroad, with a map. 8vo. New York, 1846.—*The preceding six pamphlets the gift of Henry R. Stiles.*

Hatfield, Rev. E. F. Universalism as it is: or Text Book of Modern Universalism in America. 12mo. New York, 1841. —*From the Author.*

Philadelphia. House of Refuge. Appeal to the public in behalf of, for colored juvenile delinquents. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1846.

——— ———. First, second, fourth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, fourteenth, fifteenth, seventeenth, nineteenth, and twentieth annual reports of. 8vo. 1829—1848.

Wines, E. C. A Peep at China, in Mr. Dunn's Chinese Collection; with miscellaneous notices relating to the institutions and Customs of the Chinese, and our commercial intercourse with them. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1839.

Sergeant, John. An address delivered before the citizens of Philadelphia, at the House of Refuge, 29th Nov. 1828. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1828.

Barclay, James I. An address delivered at the laying of the corner stone of the House of Refuge for colored juvenile delinquents, July 1, 1848. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1848.

Pennsylvania. Institution for the Deaf and Dumb. Annual Reports, for 1839, 1843, 1844, 1846, and 1847. 8vo.—*The preceding* 11 *pamphlets, the gift of James I. Barclay, Esq., of Philadelphia.*

Wheeler, Henry G. History of Congress, biographical and political. Vol. II. 8vo. New York, 1848.—*From Rev. R. W. Griswold.*

Squier, E. G. and E. H. Davis. Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley, comprising the results of extensive original surveys and explorations. [First volume of the Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge.] 4to. Washington, 1848.—*Gift of the Smithsonian Institution.*

Barton, Benjamin Smith. Fragments of the Natural History of Pennsylvania. Part I. 4to. Philadelphia, 1799.

France. Report of M. Jay, and speeches of Gen. Lafayette and M. Jay, in the Chamber of Deputies, on the Treaty of 1831, with the United States.

Barton, Benjamin Smith. Some Account of the Siren Lacertina, and other species of the same genus, of amphibious animals. In a letter from Professor Barton of Philadelphia, to Mr. John Gottlob Schneider of Saxony. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1821.—*From Thomas P. Barton, Esq., of Philadelphia.*

Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries. Transactions of the Society, 1845—1847. 8vo. Copenhagen, 1847.

——— ———. Guide to Northern Archæology, edited, for the use of English readers, by the Right Honorable, the Earl of Ellesmere. 8vo. London, 1848.—*From the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries.*

De Bry's Voyages. Edition published at Frankfort-on-the-Main, in 1617, containing the American Voyages, with 137 plates. In folio, printed in German.—*Gift of Nathaniel I. Bowditch, Esq., of Boston.*

New York. Annual Report of the Regents of the University, on the condition of the State Cabinet of Natural History, with the catalogues of the same. Made to the Senate, April 11, 1848. 8vo. Albany, 1848.—*Gift of Prosper M. Wetmore.*

MS. MAPS AND CHARTS.

1. Winter Cantonment of the American Army, and its vicinity, for 1783. By S. De Witt, Geog. to U. S.
2. Sketch of New Windsor, near which the American army encamped during 1783.
3. Sketch or Map of the country about New Windsor, the roads intersecting the same, with the names and residences of the principal inhabitants dwelling in the neighborhood.
4. A Map or Chart of the Hudson, with a portion of the country bordering upon the Sound, and extending to the Connecticut.
5. A Chart of the Harbor of New York, with a map of the country bordering upon the Sound, and extending to the Connecticut, with the names of the principal places laid down thereon. By Robert Erskine, F. R. S., 1779.—*Gift of Frederick De Peyster.*

FOR THE CABINET.

A Mexican Image or Idol, supposed to be of the age of the Incas, found at the ruins near Tustepeque, on the southern branch of the Papaloapam, a tributary of the Alvarado river, in the Department of Vera Cruz.—*Gift of Com. M. C. Perry, U. S. N. lately in command of the Home Squadron in the Gulf of Mexico.*

Mr. G. H. Moore, from the Executive Committee, made a report upon the nominations referred to that committee,

recommending the following candidates, who were thereupon elected, viz:—

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

Hon. CHRISTOPHER MORGAN, Albany, N. Y.
ROBERT H. PRUYN, Do.

RESIDENT MEMBERS.

SAMUEL L. MITCHELL, JAMES BENKARD,
WILLIAM H. MACY, CHARLES H. MARSHALL,
CHARLES A. BRISTED, G. CLARENCE CRAM,
WILLIAM S. MILLEDOLER, JOHN SANDERS.

Several nominations for new members were then made, and referred to the Executive Committee.

Mr. F. DE PEYSTER, who presented the manuscript maps before mentioned, spoke of their value, as going to complete the series of De Witt maps now in possession of the Society. He said his attention had been particularly called to Erskine's chart of the harbor of New York, (No. 5, of the series presented this evening,) from the fact that the draught of water off the N. E. point of Governor's island, at the commencement of what is known as the Buttermilk Channel, is marked at seven fathoms. This had induced him to examine Ratzer's Survey, made in 1766 and 1767, which shows a depth of from three to five fathoms throughout the channel; and he had also examined a collection of maps and charts published in 1780, and 1781, by the British Government, under the title of the "Atlantic Neptune." In this collection is a chart, which marks the continuous depth of Buttermilk channel at four fathoms, with six fathoms at the N. E. point of the island.

In connection with this matter, Mr. De Peyster said an original document, in possession of the Society, had been

brought to his notice by Mr. Moore, the Librarian, extracts from which he would read. The paper itself was a memorandum of testimony to be used in a lawsuit, in 1741, and bears the endorsements of James Alexander, John Jay, and Peter A. Jay, all going to prove its authenticity. The following extracts bear directly upon the point in question:

"*Testimony of Maribie Bevois, aged* 84.—Was born in New York; it is 63 years since she came to live at Brookland. Heard Jeromus Remsen's mother say, that there was only a small creek between Nutten island and the shore, and that a squaw carried her sister over it in a tub; that that sister was the first born in this country.

"*Joost Van Brunt, aged* 77 *and upwards.* Born and lived at New Utrecht; says he was about nine years old when the Dutch came to take New York, &c. Says that a great deal of the land is washed away against Nutten island. And it went further out than now, but can't say how much. Remembers to have seen meadow before Sebring's house, but how far out he knows not.

"*Jeromus Remsen, aged* 77 *years.* Born about Brookland, and lived all his days there; says that he has heard his mother say, she was carried off Nutten island by a squaw, and that it was all ledge and meadow, only a creek between Nutten island and Long Island; his mother's sister was first born in this country; it's now 116 or 117 years since she was born. His mother was four years younger. Has heard often from other people that there was but a small creek between Nutten and Long Islands."

The extraordinary testimony contained in this paper, contrasted with the evidence furnished by the several charts, of undoubted authority, just alluded to, led me to look into this matter more closely.

Here the channel, which now admits of the free passage of the largest merchant ships and ships of war, is

testified to have been a mere creek, fordable at low water, adapted to the mere transportation of a tub.

Governor Jay's note fixes the time when this testimony was given, viz., in 1741. In a little more than a century, the channel had attained a depth of 4 fathoms!

In addition to this ancient evidence, I may add, that when I was a student at law in the office of the late Peter Van Schaack, of Kinderhook, of venerated memory, Judge Benson, his valued friend, was often his guest. On various occasions, the Judge, in conversing with me about the localities of this city, I well remember, stated that in former times this channel was fordable at low water. That the gradual extension of the wharves into the East river, on the New York and Brooklyn shores, had contracted the river, and the volume of water thus forced through Buttermilk channel had deepened the passage, so as to admit, in his time, of the transit of small craft.

As to the facts thus in issue, I must admit that I had at no remote period my own doubts. I had long known that the channel was of great depth, upwards of three score years past; and the existence of the little creek, I was inclined to think, since Hendrick Hudson's day, to have been beyond the memory of the very oldest inhabitant in even Hans Bergen's time.

The predicament of the worthy justice on the Mohawk, who having heard the argument on one side, was reluctant to hear the other, lest he should get perplexed, has occurred to me in the course of this investigation. I can no longer, however, doubt from the minutes above referred to, "of what witnesses can say."

The more so, as I do not wish to be in the position of the juror in our Court of Sessions, in the palmy days of Recorder Riker, who having sharply cross-examined a witness whose direct examination seemed clear and truthful, was remonstrated with by the Court; and in justification alleged that he was led to act as he did, because the witness' testimony did not correspond with the state-

ments which he recollected to have read at a previous time in the newspapers.

Mr. De Peyster also read a paper on the Ruins of Tustepeque, which are found on a tributary of the Alvarado river, in the Department of Vera Cruz; and exhibited a number of charts and drawings made under direction of Com. M. C. Perry, of the Navy. He also read a note from Com. Perry, accompanying the Mexican Image or Idol, which had been procured by that officer, while lately in command of the United States squadron in the Gulf, and had been presented to the Society. Mr. De Peyster expressed the hope soon to be able to lay before the Society, some further and interesting particulars respecting this curious relic of ancient Mexico.

Mr. Robert Greenhow, of Washington City, then read a paper, containing statements and reasonings, calculated to show the probability that the celebrated Archbishop Fenelon may have passed some years of his life, (from 1668 to 1673,) as a missionary in Canada and the western parts of New York.

Mr. Simeon De Witt Bloodgood then read a paper on the "Literary Men of the American Colonies."

On motion, the thanks of the Society were presented to Messrs. De Peyster, Greenhow, and Bloodgood, and they were requested to furnish copies of their several papers, for the archives of the Society.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

SPECIAL MEETING, DECEMBER 19, 1848.

Hon. LUTHER BRADISH, First Vice President, in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read by Mr. WARNER, the Recording Secretary, and approved.

Mr. BARTLETT, Foreign Corresponding Secretary, presented and read the following communication from the Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield:

NEW YORK, DECEMBER 19, 1848.

DEAR SIR: A previous engagement puts it out of my power to attend the special meeting of the Historical Society, called for this evening. I send herewith, however, a short communication, which, if you think proper, you may lay before the Society. In these *gold-seeking* times, when almost all things else have lost their power to engage attention and interest, a contribution of this description may have a peculiar value.

Yours, very truly,
EDWIN F. HATFIELD.

Recent intelligence from our possessions in California, makes it quite certain, that the newly-discovered auriferous region is of great extent. It is highly probable, that gold will yet be found throughout the whole valley wa-

tered by the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers, with their tributaries. It may yet be ascertained that from Cape St. Lucas on the extreme south of the Peninsula of California, to the head waters of the Sacramento, deposites of gold are mingled with the soil.

This conjecture derives considerable confirmation from an incident which occurred nearly one hundred and thirty years since. It is related by Capt. George Shelvocke, in his account of the adventures of the "Speedwell," a ship of 24 guns, and 106 men, fitted out by certain merchants in London for a cruise in the South Seas, that sailed from Plymouth, February 13, 1719, in company with the "Success," under the command of Captain John Clipperton.

After cruising about the Pacific, nearly two years, Capt. Shelvocke determined to proceed to the coast of California. He came in sight of the peninsula on the 11th of August, 1721, and cast anchor in the harbor of *Puerto Seguro*, on the 13th, in the morning. Here he remained until the evening of the 18th, taking in wood and water, having constant and uninterrupted communication with the shore and the native savages. On his departure for China, he drew up an account of the country, in which occurs the following remarkable passage. Having alluded to the problem, not then solved, respecting the junction of America and Asia, "by some tract of land to the northward," he observes :—

"Leaving, however, these conjectures to be supported or confuted by future discoveries, I shall confine myself to facts, and report only what I have seen or known, for the information of the present age and of posterity. The eastern coast of that part of California, which I had a sight of, appears to be mountainous, barren and sandy, and very like some parts of Peru; but nevertheless, the soil about Puerto Seguro, and (very likely) in most of the valleys, is a *rich black mould;* which, as you turn it fresh up to the sun, appears as if *intermingled with gold-dust;*

some of which we endeavored to wash and purify from the dirt; but, though we were a little prejudiced against the thoughts, that it could be possible that this metal should be so *promiscuously and universally mingled with common earth*, yet we endeavored to cleanse and wash the earth from some of it; and the more we did, *the more it appeared like gold*. In order to be further satisfied, I brought away some of it, which we lost in our confusion at China. But, be that as it will, it is very probable, that this country *abounds in metals of all sorts*, though the inhabitants had no utensils or ornaments of any metal whatever; which is no wonder, since they are so perfectly ignorant in all arts."

That Capt. Shelvocke had really discovered, as here described, an extensive "*Placer*" *of gold* can scarcely be questioned. The soil was "a rich black mould;" that appeared on being turned up, "as if intermingled with gold dust." In the account given by Gov. Mason of the discovery in Upper California, near Sutter's mills, he says, that "Mr. Marshall, as he was walking down the race to this deposit of mud, observed some *glittering particles* at its upper edge; he gathered a few, examined them, and became satisfied of their value." He also tells us that, when the earthy matter is carried off by washing, the gold is left "mixed with a heavy fine *black* sand." Capt. Shelvocke could not possibly believe that what he saw was gold, because it was "so promiscuously and universally mingled with common earth;" and yet this is now matter of daily observation in Alta California. The earth is full of it.

Had the captain of the "Speedwell" succeeded in carrying his sample to England, we cannot hesitate to affirm, that it would have proved as valuable as that which has lately reached our own shores from the same general region. In that case, however, the excitement which is now felt so universally among us, would have been anticipated, and in spite of the bursting of the "South Sea

Company" and "Mississippi Scheme" bubbles, only the year before, all England would have been moved to secure the golden prize for themselves; and California, both Upper and Lower, would have become a British Province.

"It is an ill wind that blows nobody any good." Had not the captain of the "Speedwell" been deserted by his crew at Whampoa, in consequence of an unlucky shot by one of them, who, being in liquor, and pursued by a Chinese custom-house officer, fired on the latter and slew him; had it not been for the subsequent condemnation of "the good ship Speedwell," and the captain's "confusions at China," the glittering treasures of our new possessions on the Pacific, would long since have been appropriated. The hand of *Providence* is surely to be seen and acknowledged, in thus reserving, for this age and nation, the immense wealth of that "land of promise." How much of a blessing it will be to us, is yet to be seen. It constitutes, however, a marked era in the history of the precious metals; and every fact, like what has now been narrated, is worthy of particular observation and record.

That "*rich black mould*," in which the "glittering particles" are "so promiscuously and universally intermingled with common earth," has probably not been disturbed, since the visit of Capt. George Shelvocke. A rich harvest is yet to be reaped from that peninsula, which has been hitherto regarded as of but little worth. It will doubtless be much regretted, if our conjectures prove true, that Lower California was not included in the cession from the Republic of Mexico. But, if the half that has been told us is true, in respect to the Upper Territory, we have more than enough to infatuate our children for a century to come.

It will be asked, however, "*Where is this ancient 'placer' to be found?*" Our author tells us, and we communicate it "for all whom it may concern," that "it lies about two

leagues to the northeast of Cape St. Lucas," the most southern point of the peninsula; "and is, when you are in it, a very safe and good port. The watering-place is on the north side, in a small river, which there empties itself into the sea, and may be known by the appearance of a great many green canes which grow in it, and which always preserve their verdure." It is directly on the track to San Francisco, and will probably, when these facts are made public, be speedily revisited, and made a favorite watering-place for California pilgrims.

Mr. G. H. Moore, from the Executive Committee, made a report upon the nominations referred to that committee, recommending the following candidates, who were thereupon elected:

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

Dr. Walter M. Bayley,	Thlacatalpan, Mexico.
Rev. John Lord,	Roxbury, Mass.
J. Wingate Thornton,	Boston, Mass.
Rev. Flavel Bascom,	Chicago, Ill.

RESIDENT MEMBERS.

Elias G. Brown,	John P. Arcularius,
John Doggett, Jr.	Samuel Davis,
Abner Benedict, 2d.,	C. Maverick Parker,
Thomas Wells, M. D.,	Ira Bursley,
Daniel P. Bacon,	Herman C. Westervelt,
James Marsh,	Clarkson N. Potter,
Horace Greeley,	Rev. A. E. Campbell,
Moreau Morris,	Theodore Glaubensklee,
David S. Coddington,	Henry H. Welch.

Several nominations of new members were made, and referred, as usual, to the Executive Committee.

Mr. Beekman, from the Building Committee, submitted a verbal report of the proceedings of that committee, stating that the amount already subscribed was not large, but that thus far they had found the object very generally approved, and had no doubt that in the end the call would be liberally responded to. The committee, after deliberation, had come to the conclusion that a modification of the terms of subscription, which would extend to all persons subscribing one hundred dollars and upwards, the privileges of life membership from the completion of the building, would be attended with beneficial results; and in order that there might be no delay in prosecuting the undertaking, they had requested the President to summon the present meeting. Mr. Beekman then submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That subscribers of not less than one hundred dollars to the Building Fund, shall, on payment of the same, and upon due election by the Society, be declared Life Members of the New York Historical Society.

Mr. W. Chauncey addressed the meeting in a forcible manner in favor of the resolution.

Mr. W. B. Lawrence followed with some suggestions as to a change in the form of the resolution, which, however, he did not press; and it was then unanimously adopted.

Mr. Beekman, from the Building Committee, introduced the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a memorial be prepared and presented, in behalf of this Society, to the Legislature of the State of New York, praying that a sum of money may be granted to the New York Historical Society, towards the erection of a fire-proof building for the preservation of its library and collections.

THE END.

SUPPLEMENT.

Owing to an accidental delay, in receiving the corrected copy of Mr. Greenhow's paper, it was necessarily omitted from its proper place, page 192 of the Proceedings, and is here inserted as a supplement.

FÉNÉLON AMONG THE IROQUOIS.

READ BEFORE THE NEW-YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY, ON THE EVENING OF TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1848.

BY ROBERT GREENHOW.

In the course of my researches, with regard to the early discoveries of the French, in the regions of the Great Lakes and the Mississippi, I met with some curious statements, involving a probability of a nature so interesting, especially to the citizens of this State, that I venture to communicate them to the New York Historical Society, which may perhaps consider them not unworthy of its notice.

This probability is no less—than that the illustrious Archbishop Fénélon, one of the best and wisest men whom France or any other country has produced, may have passed some of the years of his youth as a missionary, among the Iroquois or Five Nations, in the western part of this State. To those who are acquainted with the life and labors of Fénélon, as exhibited by his numerous biographers, such an announcement may appear too strange to merit a moment's attention; and the evidence upon which it rests is indeed rather slender. This evidence is,

however, uncontradicted by any other as yet made public; and it will now be laid before the Society, with all its qualifications, so as to anticipate all objections, and to present the probability in its simplest expression, reduced to its true value.

It will be convenient to begin by showing what is certainly known, and what is not known, of the great Fénélon, during the period which he is here supposed to have spent in America. Many accounts of his life have appeared, of which the most full and authentic is that by Cardinal de Beausset, published at Paris, in 1808, under the title of "History of Fénélon, Archbishop of Cambray, founded upon original manuscripts."* This is the standard biography of Fénélon, comprising all that could be discovered respecting him, among his own manuscripts, as well as in the Archives of the Government, in those of the Archbishopric of Cambray, and the Seminary of St. Sulpice, and in all other places from which information could be derived. The work is minute to a fault. Nothing connected with its subject is deemed unworthy of insertion, and the dates of each event are given, whenever they could be procured, with an exactness which cannot be too highly commended.

In this work, particular as it is, no notice appears of any mission undertaken by Fénélon, in America, or in any other country out of France; nor does any other of his biographers give the slightest hint of his having been thus engaged at any period; nor does any thing appear in his writings or his conduct in after life, to countenance such a supposition. The Cardinal nevertheless expressly states that he did contemplate such a mission, at a period immediately preceding that, at which he is here supposed to have been engaged in it.

* "Histoire de Fénélon, Archevèque de Cambrai, composée sur les manuscrits originaux." The edition here consulted is in four volumes, 12mo., published at Paris, under the auspices of the Seminary of St. Sulpice, in 1844. The extracts are all from the first volume.

According to Cardinal de Beausset—François de Salignac de la Mothe Fénélon, was born on the 6th of August, 1651. Being destined from early youth, and apparently by his own choice, for the ecclesiastical profession, he was placed, first at the College du Plessis, where at the age of fifteen, "he preached a sermon," says his biographer, "which had extraordinary success;" and thence, he was soon after transferred to the Theological Seminary of St. Sulpice, in Paris, then under the direction of M. Tronson, a learned ecclesiastic. Whilst at this institution, in 1667, he conceived the desire to enter, immediately, upon a more active scene; and for the attainment of this object, he paid a visit to his uncle and guardian, the Bishop of Sarlat, after several letters had been written to that personage, by himself and by M. Tronson. One of these letters from M. Tronson, dated February, 1667, is given at length by Cardinal de Beausset: the tutor there assures the Bishop, that he has done all in his power to divert the youth—then only sixteen years old—from his design, but "his inclination is still so strong, and his intentions are so entirely disinterested, that I have been obliged to give up the attempt, after employing without effect every means in my power; considering that such being the character of his dispositions, I was not authorized to do violence to his desire." This letter, though long and devoted to the same subject, gives no information as to the nature of the design on which the young man was so strongly bent, as to render his tutor evidently inclined to consider, that he should be allowed to prosecute it. "None of his biographers," writes Cardinal de Beausset, "have thrown any light upon this circumstance in the life of Fénélon. Some original documents have, however, been communicated to us, which seem to show *that the zeal of Fénélon was then urging him, notwithstanding his extreme youth, to consecrate himself to Missions in Canada*, where the Congregation of St. Sulpice maintained a considerable establishment in the Isle of Montreal, for the

purpose of contributing to the conversion of the savages, and of procuring the succors of religion for the inhabitants of the colony. The Cardinal then proceeds to state, that the Bishop of Sarlat, alarmed with good reason by a determination so absolutely incompatible with the very delicate health of his nephew, refused his consent, and ordered him to return to St. Sulpice, and there to remain until he should have rendered himself, by retirement and study, more worthy of exercising with advantage the ministry to which he believed himself to be especially called."

Immediately following what is last extracted from the History of Fénélon, his biographer says:—"The Abbé de Fénélon,* having received the sacred orders at the Seminary of St. Sulpice, devoted himself to the functions of the Holy Ministry in the community of the priests of the same parish." After some general reflections on the importance of those functions, we next learn that—"He consecrated himself for three entire years to the ecclesiastical ministry, and was then charged by the curate of the parish of St. Sulpice, to explain the Holy Scriptures to the people on Sundays and Holydays, a duty which began to make him known, and from the performance of which he himself derived the greatest advantages. Fénélon was summoned to Sarlat in 1674 by his uncle; we have one of his letters, written from Sarlat to the Marquis de Fénélon, (another uncle,) without date, in which he, however, speaks of the death of the Marquis de St. Abrè, his maternal uncle, killed at the battle of Sintzheim, on the 16th of June, 1674, as a very recent event," &c.

These are all the particulars which the most minute of the biographies of Fénélon presents respecting his life, during the seven years intervening between his first visit to his uncle, the Bishop, in February, 1667, when he was

* Abbé is the general name for secular priests and theological students in France, nearly equivalent to the English parson, but somewhat more comprehensive.

so anxious to go to Canada as a missionary, and 1674, when he again went to see that respected personage. Of this whole long interval, comprising an interesting portion of his history, no details whatever are given. The context indeed seems to warrant the inference, that his ordination as a priest, and the three years subsequently passed by him in those benevolent occupations in the Parish of St. Sulpice, were embraced within this interval; but such an inference cannot be drawn with justice, and would be, in fact, utterly contrary to the evidence. The date of his ordination—an event of great moment in the life of a Churchman, and which would certainly have been so considered by a Churchman—is not mentioned; although the Cardinal had before him, as he says—"the original register, written by the hands of the different directors of the Seminary of St. Sulpice, marking, day by day, the entrance and departure of all the ecclesiastics, who had been received at that place between 1641 and 1709;" and this register must have been very minute, as from it was derived all the information respecting the desire of Fénélon to devote himself to missions in Canada. The other biographers of Fénélon place his ordination in the twenty-fourth year of his age, that is, in 1675–6, with the exception of one, who, without advancing any authority, writes that he was ordained at twenty-two, or in 1673–4. The Canons of the Roman Catholic Church fix twenty-four as the earliest period at which one can be admitted to the priesthood; though dispensations are granted—only by the Pope—for ordination at an earlier age: and as nothing is any where said of such a dispensation having been given in Fénélon's case, we are bound to suppose that he was not received as a priest before 1675, which would in consequence have been the commencement of the period of three years, devoted by him to the functions of the ministry in the parish St. Sulpice.

In 1675, Fénélon's desire to engage in missions again

broke forth, and he determined to repair with that object to Greece: circumstances, however, induced him to remain in France, and in 1786 he was made preceptor to the Duke of Burgundy, the heir apparent to the crown, whom no instructions could raise to the degree of a civilized being. From this painful position he was raised to the Archbishopric of Cambray in 1697; and two years afterwards his Telemaque was published surreptitiously, by the person charged with copying the manuscript, which brought upon its author the hatred of the despot, Louis XIV.—a hatred occasionally masked, but constantly subsisting, until the death of Fénélon in 1715.

Thus it appears that we have no direct and positive account of the manner in which Fénélon passed the six or seven years immediately following 1667, when he was so ardently desirous to devote himself to missions in Canada; and only from the silence of his biographers can we infer that those years were spent by him in the Seminary of St. Sulpice. Now it is precisely to this interval, from 1667 to 1674, that the evidence applies, which will now be produced, tending to show that Fénélon did actually engage in such a mission, and was thus employed, for some time, among the Iroquois, in the western part of the territory, now included in the State of New York.

The first piece of evidence to be presented, is extracted from "The History of New France,"* by the accomplished Jesuit Father Charlevoix, a work of extraordinary research and unsurpassed elegance of style, a large and important portion of which relates to the countries borbering upon the southern side of Lake Ontario, and to the Iroquois or Five Nations, originally occupying them. In his ninth book, Charlevoix writes thus:—"A considerable number of Iroquois were established near the west-

* Histoire Générale de la Nouvelle France. The edition here used is in three volumes, 4to., published at Paris in 1644. The extracts are all from the first volume.

ern extremity of Lake Ontario, among whom were many Christians; and the Bishop of Petræa, (Vicar-Apostolic of New France,) considering it improper to leave them without pastors, sent thither Messrs. de Fénélon and Trouvé." This was was in 1668 or 1669; of the labors of those Missionaries nothing is said by Charlevoix, nor do we find any further mention of M. de Fénélon, except on the following occasion. In 1673, the Count de Frontenac arrived at Quebec, as Governor and Captain-General of New France—including all the territories claimed by France in North America—and he soon after engaged in a dispute with the Missionaries and the Bishop of Quebec, (late Bishop of Petræa,) as to the part which the latter might take in the administration, and more especially as to the prohibition of the sale of ardent spirits by the traders to the Indians, which the Missionaries were ever anxious to have enforced. The dispute was carried very far; the Bishop openly censured the Governor-General, and the latter retorted by causing Molière's comedy of Tartuffe to be performed in the street, opposite to the ecclesiastical residence. Moreover, writes Charlevoix, "The Abbé de Salignac Fénélon, of the Seminary of St. Sulpice, was put in prison, under the pretext that he had preached against the Count de Frontenac, and had taken the depositions of various inhabitants of Montreal, in favor of their Governor M. Perrot,* whom the general had caused to be arrested." The exact date of this imprisonment is not given; but it probably took place in 1674, or at latest, in 1675.

These extracts from the History of New France merely show, that a M. de Fénélon was sent as a Missionary among the Iroquois in 1668–9, and that an Abbé de Salignac Fénélon was, in 1674–5, imprisoned at Quebec, on account of his resistance to the mandates of the arbitrary

* The Congregation of St. Sulpice, to which the Island of Montreal belonged, was then allowed to appoint the Governor of that place.

Governor-General. That the two individuals, thus mentioned by Charlevoix, were one and the same, is rendered certain by the index to the history, composed with extreme care, in which both of the events above-mentioned, refer to the Abbé de Salignac Fénélon. Of this person Charlevoix says nothing more, and his silence must indeed be admitted as unfavorable to the supposition here advanced; for, if the Abbé de Fénélon, who had been engaged in such arduous and praiseworthy labors, and had been treated with such indignity by the Governor-General, had been the same afterward so well known, and holding such eminent situations in France, the Jesuit would scarcely have failed to notice the circumstance, in his work, which was not published until 1744—long after the death of the prelate.

There is, however, one other piece of evidence tending most strongly to confirm the belief in the identity of the Abbé de Fénélon, who served as a Missionary in Canada, with the Abbé de Fénélon, who wrote Telémaque, and who was preceptor to the Duke of Burgundy, and afterwards Archbishop of Cambray. This testimony, indeed, comes from an uncertain authority; yet when taken in conjunction with the other circumstances related, it will be found to bear a strong face. It comes from Friar Louis Hennepin, whose name is indissolubly connected with the history of this country, by his successful labors in the exploration of the central portions of the Continent, as well as by the interesting descriptions of those regions and their inhabitants, which he was, probably, the first to make known to the civilized world. He came to Canada in 1674 or 1675; and four years afterwards, he accompanied La Salle on his first expedition to the Mississippi regions, the northern portion of which, were explored by Hennepin, in a manner most extraordinary, considering his means—or rather his want of all means, except those supplied by his own courage and sagacity. From the Upper Mississippi he returned to

Canada, and thence proceeded to France in 1682, where he soon after published the narrative of his adventures, containing the earliest exact accounts of the regions west of the great Lakes.* This narrative, fair, truthful, and most interesting, even at the present day, is almost unknown; and its author is now judged only from the evidence of his character afforded by subsequent works. published in Holland in 1697–8, which are filled with gross falsehoods and absurdities, the fruits of disappointment, combined with old age and penury.

In the first of these works last mentioned—the well known "*New Discovery of a Country larger than Europe*,"† while speaking of the period of his residence in America, Hennepin says—"I embarked [at Rochelle for Canada] with M. François de Laval, then Bishop of Petræa, *in partibus infidelium*, and since made Bishop of Quebec, the capital of Canada. My desire to travel increased more and more. I remained in that country four years, and I was sent on a Mission, whilst the Abbé de Fénélon, now Archbishop of Cambray, was residing there." This is, indeed, a positive assertion, on a point on which the Friar could scarcely have been mistaken. The exact date of Hennepin's arrival in Canada, cannot be determined: he states that he was ordered to proceed thither, immediately after the battle of Senef, at which he was present, August 11, 1674; and that he then remained two months near Rochelle, from which port he sailed in company with the Bishop of Quebec, as above stated. It is therefore probable that he arrived in Canada in the latter part of 1674, or early in the following year, about which time or somewhat earlier, the Abbé de Salignac Fénélon was imprisoned by Count de Frontenac. Hennepin does not say that he saw the Abbé de Fénélon in Canada; and he

* "Déscription de la Louisiané"—Paris, 1683. It has never been translated into English.

† "Nouvelle Découverte d'un pays plus grand que l'Europe." Paris: 1697. The extract here given is from the first chapter.

may have been misinformed as to the exact period of his residence there; nor does he say that he had ever seen the Archbishop of Cambray: but he directly declares his belief, that they were one and the same person; and he is, at most, chargeable only with inaccuracy, such as might have been committed, without any imputation on his veracity.

It has been thus shown by testimony which will scarcely be questioned that the Abbé de Salignac Fénélon, afterwards Archbishop of Cambray, when a student of theology in the Seminary of St. Sulpice at Paris, in 1667, before he had attained his seventeenth year, was ardently desirous to engage immediately in a Mission in Canada: and it should be observed, that his youth at that time would have presented no obstacle to his employment in such duties; as numerous instances are found of persons still younger being thus engaged in preaching, catechising, and otherwise instructing, though they were, of course, unauthorised to receive confessions, or to administer sacraments; that in 1668 and in 1674, and probably during the intermediate period, an Abbé de Salignac Fénélon, of the Seminary of St. Sulpice, was residing in Canada and the adjacent countries, as a Missionary; and that this Abbé, or one bearing the same name, a Missionary in Canada about the same time, was supposed, by a contemporary ecclesiastic, to be the same person, afterwards enjoying the high dignity of Archbishop of Cambray. It may be added that Cardinal de Beausset, though he gives many particulars respecting the family of Fénélon, and mentions several persons of that name, does not speak of any one, except the subject of his biography, who could have been the Missionary in Canada.

When to these facts is added the consideration, that none of the biographers of the Archbishop present a satisfactory account of the place where, and the manner in which, he spent this period of his life, comprised between

1667 and 1674, the identity here supposed probable, may be admitted to be at least possible until this uncertainty has been removed. Encouragement is thus offered for pursuing an inquiry which may end in connecting the great and good Fénélon, by ties the most sacred, with the History of our own Republic; and that this conclusion may be attained, no citizen of the State of New-York, will refuse his wishes, or if required, his co-operation.

I shall take measures to have inquiries made on the subject, in the quarters from which the most speedy and exact answers may be expected; and the result—whatever it may be—shall be communicated to the Historical Society without delay.

THE

CHARTER AND BY-LAWS

OF THE

NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

REVISED MARCH, 1846.

[SECOND EDITION, WITH AMENDMENTS TO JANUARY 1853.]

NEW YORK:
PRINTED FOR THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

M DCCC LIII.

NEW YORK:
PRINTED BY CHARLES SHIELDS,
23 PLATT STREET.

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GEORGE H. MOORE, SECRETARY.

[The officers of the Society are members, *ex officio*, of the Executive Committee. The Society's Rooms are in the University Building, and are daily open to the members. Stated meetings of the Society on the first Tuesday of the month.]

At a meeting of the New York Historical Society, held at their Rooms on Tuesday Evening, the 17th March, 1846, Mr. Bradish offered the following resolution, submitted by the Executive Committee, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the By-Laws adopted by the Society, be referred to the Executive Committee, with instructions to have prepared and printed, in pamphlet form, the original Act of Incorporation of the Society, the Act of 1826 reviving that Act, the Act of 1846, reviving and amending the original Act of Incorporation, the existing Act of Incorporation as revived and amended, the By-Laws, and a list of officers and members of the Society.

Extract from the Minutes.

ANDREW WARNER,
Recording Secretary.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the New York Historical Society, held at the Library, on Tuesday Evening, April 20th, 1852,

On motion of Col. Warner, it was resolved that the subject of a new edition of the Charter and By-Laws of the Society and the Register of Members, be referred to the President and Librarian, with power.

Extract from the Minutes.

GEORGE H. MOORE.
Secretary.

ORIGINAL ACT OF INCORPORATION.

AN ACT

To incorporate the New York Historical Society: Passed February 10*th*, 1809.

WHEREAS, the persons hereinafter named, and others, have formed themselves into an association under the name of "The New York Historical Society," for the purpose of discovering, procuring, and preserving whatever may relate to the natural, civil, literary, and ecclesiastical history of the United States in general, and of this State in particular, and have presented a petition to the Legislature to be incorporated, that thereby such, the purpose and design of the said Society, may be the more effectually subserved and promoted.

Therefore,

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, That Egbert Benson, Brockholst Livingston, Benjamin Moore, Samuel Miller, William Johnson, Samuel L. Mitchell, David Hosack, John M. Mason, DeWitt Clinton, John McKesson, Anthony Bleecker, Charles Wilkes, John Pintard and John Forbes, and their associates, who now are, and such other persons as shall hereafter become members of the said Society, shall be, and are hereby ordained, constituted and declared a body corporate and politic, in fact and name, by the name of "The New York Historical Society," and that by such name they and their successors forever hereafter shall and may have succession, and by the same name be capable in law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, answer and be

answered unto, defend and be defended, in all courts of law and equity, in all manner of actions, suits, complaints, and matters whatsoever; and that they and their successors may have a common seal, and the same break, alter, change, and renew at their pleasure, and by the same shall be forever hereafter capable in the law to purchase, take, hold, receive, and enjoy, to them and their successors, any lands, tenements, hereditaments, goods, chattels or estate, real or personal, of whatever nature or quality in fee simple, for life or lives, or for years, or in any other manner whatsoever: provided always, that the yearly income or value of the said real or personal estate do not at any time exceed the sum of fifteen hundred dollars, current money of the State of New York.

2. And it is hereby further enacted, That they and their successors by the same name, shall have power and authority to give, grant, bargain, sell, demise, release, and convey to others the whole or any part of such real or personal estate on such terms, and in such manner and form as the said Society may deem eligible to subserve and promote such, the purpose and design of the said Society, and that they and their successors shall have power from time to time, to abolish any of the offices or appointments hereinafter mentioned, and create others in their room, with such powers and duties as they may think fit to confer and prescribe, and shall have power from time to time to make, constitute, ordain, and establish such constitutions, by-laws, ordinances and regulations as they shall judge proper for the election of officers, the election and admission of new members for the government and regulation of the officers and members, for fixing the times and places of the meetings of the said corporation, and for conducting, regulating, and managing all the affairs and business of the said corporation, and the same from time to time to alter, change, repeal, revoke, and annul at their pleasure; and that the constitution and by-laws, rules and regulations of the said Society heretofore made and adopted, and now existing, shall and may remain in force until altered or repealed by the said corporation: provided, that such by-laws, constitutions and regulations made or to

be made by the said corporation shall not be repugnant to the constitution and laws of the United States or of this State.

3. And be it further enacted, That the officers of the said Society, until otherwise ordained by the said corporation, shall consist of one President, two Vice Presidents, a Correspondent Secretary, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, a Librarian, and standing Committee of seven members, and that until the next annual meeting of the said Society, and until others shall be chosen in their places, the present officers and committees last appointed by the said Society, shall be and continue respectively the officers of the said corporation.

4. And be it further enacted, That this act shall be, and is hereby declared to be, a public act, and shall be construed most favorably to subserve and promote such, the purpose and design of the said Society, and that no misnomer of the said corporation, in any deed, will, testament, gift, grant, demise, or other instrument of contract or conveyance, shall vitiate or defeat the same, provided the said corporation shall be sufficiently described to show the intention of the parties.

5. And be it further enacted, That this act shall be and remain in full force for the term of fifteen years: provided, nevertheless, that in case the aforesaid Society shall at any time appropriate their, or any part of their funds to any purpose or purposes other than those contemplated by this act, and shall be thereof convicted by due course of law, that thenceforth the said corporation shall cease and determine, and the estate, real and personal, whereof it may be seized and possessed, shall vest in the people of this State.

REVIVAL OF THE ACT OF INCORPORATION.

AN ACT

For renewing and continuing in force an Act entitled, "an Act to incorporate the New York Historical Society." Passed February 10, 1809. *Passed February* 10, 1826.

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, That the act entitled "an act to incorporate the New York Historical Society," passed February 10, 1809, shall be, and the same is hereby revived and extended and continued in force until the tenth day of February, which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine: And the said act shall be taken and considered to have been in full force and effect, since the time of the passing thereof, in the same manner as if the same had not expired by its own limitation.

2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the officers last appointed by the said Society or Corporation, pursuant to the provisions of the said act shall be, and continue to be officers of the said Corporation, till others shall be duly chosen in their respective places: And the estate and property which the said Society or Corporation may have legally acquired, or which they may legally hold, pursuant to the said act, they may continue to hold, and may convey and dispose of the same, in the same manner as if the said act had always continued in full force and effect.

REVIVAL AND AMENDMENT

OF THE

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

AN ACT

To revive and continue in force an Act entitled, "an Act to incorporate the New York Historical Society," Passed February 10, 1809, *and to amend the same. Passed February* 2, 1846. *By a two-third vote.*

THE People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1. The Act entitled "an Act to incorporate the New York Historical Society," Passed February 10th, 1809, is hereby revived and continued in force.

2. The said act so revived and continued in force, is hereby amended by striking out at the end of the first Section thereof the words, "Provided always that the yearly income, or value of the said real or personal estate, do not at any time exceed the sum of fifteen hundred dollars, current money of the State of New York;" And inserting in the place thereof the words: "but the clear yearly income of the said real and personal estate, over and above the Library and collections of the said Society, shall not at any time exceed the sum of ten thousand dollars."

3. The said revived act is hereby further amended, by striking out in the fifth line of the third Section thereof the words, "A correspondent Secretary," and inserting in the

place thereof the words, "A foreign corresponding Secretary, and domestic corresponding Secretary."

4. The said revived act is hereby further amended, by striking out in the first part of the fifth Section thereof the words, "That this act shall be and remain in full force for the term of fifteen years: Provided nevertheless."

5. The Legislature may at any time alter or repeal this act.

6. This act shall take effect immediately.

THE CHARTER.

The Charter of the New York Historical Society, as revived, continued in force and amended, February 2d, 1846.

WHEREAS, the persons hereinafter named, and others, have formed themselves into an Association, under the name of "The New York Historical Society," for the purpose of discovering, procuring, and preserving whatever may relate to the natural, civil, literary, and ecclesiastical history of the United States in general, and of this State in particular, and have presented a petition to the Legislature to be incorporated, that thereby such, the purpose and design of the said Society, may be the more effectually subserved and promoted:

Therefore,

§ I. BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, That Egbert Benson, Brockholst Livingston, Benjamin Moore, Samuel Miller, William Johnson, Samuel L. Mitchell, David Hosack, John M. Mason, DeWitt Clinton, John McKesson, Anthony Bleecker, Charles Wilkes, John Pintard and John Forbes and their associates who now are, and such other persons as shall hereafter become members of the said Society, shall be, and are hereby ordained, constituted, and declared a body corporate and politic, in fact and name, by the name of "The New York Historical Society," and that by such name they and their successors, forever hereafter shall and may have succession, and by the same name be capable in law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered unto, defend and be defended, in all courts of

law and equity, in all manner of actions, suits, complaints, and matters whatsoever; and that they and their successors may have a common seal, and the same break, alter, change, and renew at their pleasure, and by the same be forever hereafter capable in the law to purchase, take, hold, receive, and enjoy, to them and their successors, any lands, tenements, hereditaments, goods, chattels or estate, real or personal, of whatever nature or quality, in fee simple, for life or lives, or for years, or in any other manner whatsoever; but the clear yearly income of the said real and personal estate, over and above the Library and collections of the said Society, shall not at any time exceed the sum of ten thousand dollars.

§ II. And it is hereby further enacted, That they and their successors, by the same name, shall have power and authority to give, grant, bargain, sell, demise, release, and convey to others, the whole or any part of such real or personal estate, on such terms, and in such manner and form as the said Society may deem eligible to subserve and promote such, the purpose and design of the said Society; and that they and their successors shall have power from time to time to abolish any of the offices or appointments hereinafter mentioned, and create others in their room, with such powers and duties as they may think fit to confer and prescribe, and shall have power from time to time to make, constitute, ordain, and establish such constitutions, by-laws, ordinances, and regulations as they shall judge proper for the election of officers, the election and admission of new members, for the government and regulation of the officers and members, for fixing the times and places of the meetings of the said corporation, and for conducting, regulating, and managing all the affairs and business of the said corporation; and the same from time to time to alter, change, repeal, revoke, and annul at their pleasure; and that the constitution and by-laws, rules and regulations of the said Society heretofore made and adopted, and now existing, shall and may remain in force until altered or repealed by the said corporation: provided that such by-laws, constitutions and regulations,

made or to be made by the said corporation shall not be repugnant to the constitution and laws of the United States, or of this State.

§ III. And be it further enacted, that the officers of the said Society, until otherwise ordained by the said corporation, shall consist of one President, two Vice Presidents, a Foreign Corresponding Secretary, a Domestic Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, a Librarian, and standing Committee of seven members; and that until the next annual meeting of the said Society, and until others shall be chosen in their places, the present officers and committees last appointed by the said Society shall be and continue respectively the officers of the said Corporation.

§ IV. And be it further enacted, that this act shall be and is hereby declared to be a public act, and shall be construed most favorably to subserve and promote such, the purpose and design of the said Society, and that no misnomer of the said Corporation, in any deed, will, testament, gift, grant, demise, or other instrument of contract or conveyance shall vitiate or defeat the same: provided the said corporation shall be sufficiently described to show the intention of the parties.

§ V. And be it further enacted, that in case the aforesaid Society shall at any time appropriate their, or any part of their funds to any purpose or purposes, other than those contemplated by this act, and shall be thereof convicted by due course of law, that thenceforth the said Corporation shall cease and determine, and the estate real and personal, whereof it may be seized and possessed, shall vest in the people of this State.

§ VI. The Legislature may at any time alter or repeal this act.

§ VII. This act shall take effect immediately.

BY-LAWS.

NAME.

I. The name of this Society is, "The New York Historical Society."

OBJECT.

II. The object of the Society is to discover, procure, and preserve whatever may relate to the natural, civil, literary, and ecclesiastical history of the United States in general, and of the State of New York in particular.

MEMBERS.

III. The Society shall consist of Resident, Corresponding, and Honorary Members. Resident Members shall be persons residing in the City of New York, or its immediate vicinity within this State. Corresponding and Honorary Members shall be persons residing elsewhere; and not more than twelve Honorary Members shall be elected in any one year. Resident Members upon removing from this City or its immediate vicinity, and on giving notice thereof to the Recording Secretary, shall thereafter be Corresponding Members; and, in like manner, Corresponding Members upon coming to reside in this City, or its immediate vicinity, shall cease to be Corresponding Members; and, upon giving the like notice, shall thereafter be Resident Members.

IV. Members shall be elected as follows: The candidates shall be proposed publicly at a meeting of the Society by a member thereof; and the nominations, together

with the name of the member making them, shall be entered on the minutes, and be referred to the Executive Committee. The Reports of that Committee recommending candidates for election, shall be openly read to the Society, at a meeting subsequent to that at which the nominations were made; and if any member demand a ballot, the election shall be by ballot, and three black balls shall exclude. If no ballot be demanded, the candidates so recommended, shall be declared duly elected members of the Society.

ANNUAL FEES AND DUES.

V. Each resident member shall pay, on admission, an initiation fee of FIVE DOLLARS, and FIVE DOLLARS annually, as dues; or, in lieu thereof, a life membership fee of FIFTY DOLLARS, as a commutation for all the regular dues and fees: provided, that in all cases of election after the summer recess, the dues to be charged to members so elected, for the remainder of the year, shall be for six months only, or TWO DOLLARS and FIFTY CENTS. Should any resident member, other than a life-member, fail to pay the said annual fees and dues for two years successively, or at any time refuse to pay the same, the Executive Committee shall have power to erase his name from the list of members, and he shall no longer be a member of the Society.*

OFFICERS.

VI. The Officers of the Society are—

A PRESIDENT,
A FIRST VICE PRESIDENT,
A SECOND VICE PRESIDENT,
A FOREIGN CORRESPONDING SECRETARY,
A DOMESTIC CORRESPONDING SECRETARY,
A RECORDING SECRETARY,
A TREASURER, and
A LIBRARIAN.

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* As amended, May 2, 1848.

They shall be elected annually by ballot, and shall hold their offices respectively for one year, and until others shall be chosen in their places.

These officers, together with seven other members, to be appointed annually by the President, shall constitute a standing Committee, to be called "The Executive Committee."

ANNUAL MEETING.

VII. The Society shall hold an annual meeting on the first Tuesday of January in each and every year hereafter, at which a general election of officers by ballot shall take place. In such election, a majority of the ballots given for any officer shall constitute a choice: but if, on the first ballot, no person shall receive such majority, then a further balloting shall take place, in which a plurality of votes given for any officer shall determine the choice.

Whenever the first Tuesday of January shall be the first day of January, the annual meeting above provided for shall be held on the Wednesday following.

VACANCY.

VIII. If a vacancy shall happen in any of the offices of the Society, it may be filled by special election, at a regular meeting of the Society; and the person so elected to fill a vacancy, shall hold his office for the unexpired term of his immediate predecessor in office, and until another shall be elected in his place.

MONTHLY AND SPECIAL MEETINGS.

IX. The Society shall meet regularly for the transaction of business, at its rooms, on the first Tuesday in every month, unless otherwise specially ordered. But the President, or, in his absence, either of the Vice Presidents, may, and upon the written request of any five members, shall call a special meeting, giving three days notice thereof, to

be published in at least two public newspapers, printed in the City of New York.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

X. At the regular meetings of the Society, the following shall be the order of business:

1. The reading of the minutes of the last meeting.
2. Reports and communications from officers of the Society.
3. Reports of the Executive and other Committees.
4. Election of members previously proposed.
5. Nomination of new members.
6. Miscellaneous business.
7. Papers read, and Addresses delivered, before the Society.

ANNIVERSARY.

XI. On the third Tuesday of November in each year, being the anniversary of the founding of the Society, there shall be an address delivered before the Society by the President, or some other person to be appointed for that purpose by the Executive Committee.

QUORUM.

XII. At all meetings of the Society, twenty-one members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

PRESIDING OFFICER.

XIII. The President, or, in his absence, one of the Vice Presidents, or, in their absence, a Chairman pro tempore, shall preside at all meetings of the Society, and shall have a casting vote. He shall preserve order, and shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Society. He shall also appoint all Committees authorized by the Society, unless otherwise specially ordered.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES.

XIV. The Corresponding Secretaries shall conduct the general correspondence of the Society. They shall have the custody of all letters and communications to the Society, excepting papers read, and addresses delivered before the same, which shall be deposited in the Library. They shall, at every meeting of the Society, read such letters and communications as they may have received; they shall prepare all letters to be written in connection with the business or objects of the Society, and transmit the same; but the Society may appoint a Committee to prepare a letter or letters, on any special occasion. They shall notify all members of their election, and of such other matters as they may see fit, or shall be directed by the Society; and shall transmit to them their proper diplomas, or certificates of membership. They shall keep, in suitable books to be provided for that purpose, true copies of all letters written on behalf of the Society; and shall carefully preserve the originals of all letters and communications received.

The duties of the Foreign Corresponding Secretary shall be limited to the correspondence with individuals or associate bodies in foreign countries; and those of the Domestic Corresponding Secretary shall, in like manner, be confined to the United States, except that, in the absence of either of these officers, or during a vacancy in either office, its duties shall be performed by the remaining incumbent, until such absence shall terminate, or the vacancy be supplied.

RECORDING SECRETARY.

XV. The Recording Secretary shall have the custody of the Seal, Charter, By-Laws, and Records of the Society. He shall, under the direction of the President, or either of the Vice Presidents, give due notice of the time and place of all meetings of the Society, and attend the same. He shall keep fair and accurate records of all the proceedings and orders of the Society; and shall give notice to the

several officers, and to the Executive and other Committees, of all votes, orders, resolves, and proceedings of the Society, affecting them, or appertaining to their respective duties.

TREASURER.

XVI. The Treasurer shall collect and keep the funds and securities of the Society. Out of these funds, he shall pay such sums as may be ordered by the Society, or by the Executive Committee. He shall keep a true account of his receipts and payments; and, at each annual meeting, render the same to the Society, when a Committee shall be appointed to audit his accounts.*

XVII. If from the annual Report of the Treasurer there shall appear to be a balance against the Treasury, no appropriation of money shall be made for any object but the necessary current expenses of the Society, until such balance shall be paid.

LIBRARIAN.

XVIII. The Librarian, in connection with the Executive Committee, shall have the charge and superintendence of the rooms, and the custody and arrangement of the books, manuscripts, and other articles belonging to the Library and collections of the Society. He shall cause to be prepared and kept, a proper catalogue and list of the same. He shall acknowledge the receipt of donations to the Society in his department. He shall expend in the purchase of books and other articles, and for their safe keeping and preservation, with the approbation of the said committee, such sums of money as shall from time to time be appropriated for that purpose, and report thereon to the Society. He shall, at least once in each year, render his accounts for such purchases and expenditures, to the Treasurer for settlement, and shall further make to the Society, at each annual meeting, a full report on the condition and progress of the

* As amended March 5, 1850.

Library and collections. He shall have power to employ, at a salary to be fixed by the Executive Committee, an Assistant Librarian, who shall be under his direction, and perform such duties as he may assign; and who, during the hours at which the Library is open, shall be always present.

LIBRARY REGULATIONS.

XIX. The following shall be the regulations for the use of the Library:

1. No book or manuscript shall at any time be lent to any person to be removed from the Society's Rooms.
2. No Manuscript in the Library, nor any paper read before the Society and deposited in its archives, shall be published, except by the direction of the Society, or with the consent of the Executive Committee.
3. The hours during which the Library shall be open, shall be determined from time to time, by the Executive Committee.
4. During such hours, any members of the Society may have free access to consult any book or manuscript, except such as may be designated by the Executive Committee, and to make extracts from the same under the authority of the Librarian. Any person not a member, may obtain the like privilege of consultation from the President or Librarian, if known to them, or upon the recommendation of some other member, to whom the applicant is known. But no person not a member, shall be permitted to take extracts from the manuscripts of the Society, excepting the donors or depositors of the same, without special authority from the Executive Committee.
5. It shall be the duty of the Librarian, or his Assistant, to report to the Executive Committee any injury done to any book or manuscript by any person consulting the same; and the said Committee may, at their discretion, lay such Reports before the Society. For any

such injury, the person doing it shall make such pecuniary compensation as the said Committee shall judge proper; and if he be not a member, the Committee shall have power, if they think fit, to prohibit him from further access to the Society's Rooms.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

XX. It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to solicit and receive donations for the Society; to recommend plans for promoting its objects; to digest and prepare business; to authorize the disbursement and expenditure of unappropriated monies in the hands of the Treasurer, for the payment of salaries, current expenses, fitting up the Library, the ordinary purchase of books, binding, printing, and other necessary outlays.

They shall, in connection with the Librarian, have charge of the arrangement and regulation of the Library and collections; and shall have authority at any time to examine into the condition of the same, and into the state of the finances; as also generally to superintend the interests of the Society, and execute all such duties as may from time to time be committed to them by the Society. At each annual meeting of the Society, they shall make a general report. Except during the summer vacation of the Society, they shall meet regularly for the transaction of business, once at least, in every month; and if any member of the Committee, not an officer of the Society, shall be absent from its meetings for three successive months, without reasons therefor satisfactory to the Committee, his place on the Committee shall be vacated, which fact shall be reported by the Committee to the Society, and the President shall proceed immediately to fill the same by a new appointment.

At all meetings of the Executive Committe, five members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

XXI. The Executive Committee shall provide a suitable case or cases, to be placed in the rooms of the Society, for

the deposit and safe-keeping of all papers and other things belonging to the department of the Foreign Corresponding Secretary, the Domestic Corresponding Secretary, the Recording Secretary, the Treasurer, the Librarian, and the Executive Committee. And all papers and other things belonging to each of these several departments respectively, shall be deposited and constantly kept, by its proper officer, in the case or cases appropriated for its use, under his special care and upon his official responsibility.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS ON COMMITTEES.

XXII. All Committees of the Society, other than the Executive Committe, shall be composed of three members, unless otherwise specially ordered.

ALTERATION OF BY-LAWS.

XXIII. No alteration in the By-Laws of the Society shall be made, unless such alteration shall have been openly proposed at a previous meeting, and entered on the minutes, with the name of the member proposing the same; and shall be adopted by a majority of the members present at a regular meeting of the Society.

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